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Vet denies antique gun charges as court case opens

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

A Vale of Glamorgan veterinary surgeon who came into possession of a Lewis machine gun nearly 100 years' old, illegally sold it to a collector of World War One and World War Two aircraft, it has been alleged at Cardiff Crown Court.

Maurice Kirk (aged 64) claimed that the gun had been de-commissioned and was not capable of being fired.

But prosecutor Richard Twomlow said that a covert police officer with the codename of 'Foxy', telephoned Mr Kirk, said he was interested in the gun, and was informed that it actually worked.

Mr Kirk, of Marlpits, St Donats, has denied illegally and unlawfully possessing the gun, and selling or transferring it.

Mr Kirk, who is known worldwide as the 'Flying Vet', is not represented by counsel and is defending himself.

Mr Twomlow said the gun was a combination of the original component and other components. Under the 1968 Firearms Act, it was prohibited.

He pointed out that Mr Kirk was a qualified pilot and had a website.

The gun was designed so that two or more bullets could be discharged without repeated pressure on the trigger.

Mr Twomlow said that Mr Kirk told Robert Cooper, to whom he sold the gun, that it had been de-activated.

Two firearms experts examined the gun and discovered that it could still be fired, using ammunition of an earlier era, or modern ammunition.

In 2008, he offered for sale on his website, aeroplanes, and the gun and ammunition for £4,000.

A police officer examined the website and saw a number of photographs of Mr Kirk holding the gun. The caption to one read: 'The final solution'.

In addition, said Mr Twomlow, Mr Kirk posted video pictures of himself on You-tube.

Mr Twomlow said Mr Cooper had bought a replica World War One fighter from Mr Kirk in the past. It was a 'pusher' aeroplane, with the propeller behind the pilot.

In 2008, Mr Kirk sold the gun to Mr Cooper for £2,000, claiming it was de-activated.

Mr Kirk was arrested in June last year and largely said "no comment" to questions and again repeated that the gun had been decommissioned.

The case is expected to last three weeks.

PARENTS' TRANSPORT WORRIES

THE parents of children at a senior school in Barry are to lobby their councillors in a bid to ensure that cuts are not made to funding of transport for 16-19-year-old learners in the Vale.

The issue will be discussed at the Vale Council's lifelong learning scrutiny committee on February 17, followed by the cabinet on March 17.

To read the reasons behind the parents' concern, please turn to page 4 for story. (See also letter on page 2).

'Time to preserve our heritage'

A LOCAL historian has called for a Barry Heritage Centre to be built, warning that if it fails to go ahead in the near future, "there is a real danger that this opportunity could be lost for a generation".

Military historian, Dr Jonathan Hicks, who has held a number of exhibitions relating to the history of the town and the Vale in recent years, explained:

"With the forthcoming further development of the Waterfront, there will be an opportunity to access private finance for what I would now see as a Heritage Centre for Barry and the Vale.

"The collection housed in such a building would reflect the diverse history of the Vale from its prehistoric times right up to the present day.

"I am only one of several local historians who are keen to see this story told before the chance to do so disappears completely."

Dr Hicks accepts that the Vale Council is unlikely to be able to provide the necessary funds for a heritage centre, hence his hope that private finance may be a way forward.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

'DISRESPECTFUL'

Family's anger at £2,400 burial charge as mother is treated as an outsider

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

ON the day a much-loved Barry teacher was buried in the town, her name was written across the Romilly Junior School gates – Jayne Van Praag 1949-2009 – with accompanying decorative love hearts.

But because she had lived out the final years of her life away from Barry, Jayne's family was charged £2,400 for the burial rather than the normal £800 for a local resident.

Her daughter Rebecca (30) said she felt it was "disrespectful" to her mother's memory that no concession had been made for someone who had given so much to the town.

Rebecca, who lives on the Pencoedtre estate, told The GEM: "My mother had lived in Barry for most of her life.

Her parents were Evelyn and Joseph Brown who had two shops in Barry Road and owned Parkstone guest-house on St Nicholas Road.

"My mother went to school in the town, and did her teacher training in Birmingham before returning to teach at Gladstone Road Primary School."

Jayne also worked for the Teachers' Pension Service at the Tax Office, and then ran the popular clothes shop The Bees' Knees in Dinas Powys for eleven and a half years – all the time still living in Barry's West End.

Rebecca explained: "After the clothes shop she did a refresher course in teaching at the University of Wales in Newport, working voluntarily at Romilly Infants, before being offered a part-time post by the headmistress because she was so highly thought of.

"She then worked as a special needs teacher for the infants in the mornings, and as a teacher with the juniors in the afternoons.

She also took the deputy headmaster's class in the juniors for two days a week."

Jayne was also a devoted supporter of the children's cancer charity LATCH, serving on the committee and raising funds for more than 13 years.

She retired from teaching because of a stroke in 2003, and moved permanently to Narberth in Pembrokeshire in 2005 after her partner Michael bought a property there.

Rebecca said: "In 2006, my mother had a hysterectomy and was treated for cancer with chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

She was told that she wouldn't need treatment for another five years."

But in 2009, the cancer returned and Jayne died at the age of 60 in Withybush Hospital on September 4.

Rebecca said: "My mother had a strong Christian faith and her funeral was held at Bethesda Chapel in Dinas Powys on September 18 with the burial at Barry cemetery.

"On the day of the funeral Romilly School wrote my mum's name across the school gates along with love hearts."

ABOVE: Jayne Van Praag.

Despite the fact that Jayne spent the vast majority of her life in Barry, making a significant contribution to the community, the family were charged £2,400 for the burial, rather than the £800 charge for someone living in the town.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

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BOSCH: Just what was the big attraction?

IT is no surprise, but nevertheless galling, that Bosch have decided to relocate to low-wage Hungary – but it would be enlightening to know what incentives to do so have been proferred by the Hungarian government.

Clearly, our own incentives were sufficiently attractive to bring the company to Wales initially, but now these have been dissipated, Bosch is set to exploit new opportunities.

When the possibility of the company coming to Miskin was first debated and Bosch was seeking the support of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, I was a Vale councillor, and clearly remember the company proudly detailing its manufacturing history – with one glaring omission – ie the years between 1939 and 1945.

I wonder why?

Can the company now be more transparent and let us know what offers and inducements have been made by Hungary?

Christopher Short, Barry

'To grit or not to grit?

I WOULD like to echo Mr Arthur's recent comments (The GEM, January 14) regarding council gritting; before the snow, the council seemed to have gritting lorries on the road at the slightest sign of a frost, which is to be commended.

However, when the snow fell, they were conspicuous by their absence throughout the cold spell. I believe a lack of grit caused by their previous efforts was to blame.

Apparently Cowbridge had plenty, so why couldn't some be 'borrowed' by Barry?

On Highlight Park where I live, I saw no discernible efforts of gritting except for Cambourne Close. This road was cleared by council workers by hand and then gritted.

This is probably the most level close on Highlight Park and I would imagine one of the least troubled when snow falls.

Furthermore, our rubbish collections were disrupted, presumably because it was thought too dangerous to risk dustcarts on our estate.

Yet there was a dustcart parked on Lakin Drive opposite Beaumont Close on the very day the rubbish was supposed to be collected. Would Mr Loosemore of the council care to explain this?

Rob Nash, Barry

Sensor these traffic lights!

I WELCOME the traffic lights controlling the new entrance to the Comprehensive School on Aberthin Road - but could I suggest they are fitted with a sensor mechanism, so that they are only activated when cars are trying to leave the car park?

This would prevent regular users of Aberthin Road from having to stop for no reason whatsoever at least once a day.

(Name and address supplied)

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We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

Removal of free transport penalises college students

I WRITE to voice my intense concern about the proposal to cease the free college bus for the students of St David's Catholic college.

As a former student who has St David's college to thank for my acceptance to medical school and success in A levels, I was deeply disappointed to read that there are plans to remove the free transport facilities.

I know from my personal experience, that there are dozens of young people who will miss out on the fantastic opportunities that St David's presents – because they will be unable to afford to travel the hour-long journey to and from college every day. I remember how students would consider giving up college some days because the bus was often late or in a terrible condition, so I am sure that removing the free transport altogether will take away their motivation to go to college at all.

St David's is a unique experience for any sixth former in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The community aspect encouraged by the background of Christian faith is what makes it special, and also many of the courses available and overall learning experience are incomparable to any other sixth forms in Barry and the surrounding areas.

To remove the free transport will definitely cause many current students in St Richard Gwyn High School to reconsider their options and likely decide not to continue with further education.

This will unquestionably add to the thousands of insufficiently educated, unprepared, untrained and therefore unemployed young people that already live in the Vale of Glamorgan.

As you may have gathered, I feel extremely strongly about this issue.

I am absolutely disgusted by the plan to remove the free transport. Many families just wouldn't be able to afford to send their children across Cardiff city every day – even with a subsidised fee and EMA – I know this from experience.

Please take my appeal seriously; I wholeheartedly believe that many a young person's future will be affected by removing the free transport, thus removing this opportunity, and not for their benefit.

I would like others from low income families like myself to freely receive the great opportunities at St David's college and the support from the council, so they too can become professionals and have great careers and futures.

Jade Denise Hodgson, Barry

Changes needed to make roads safer

I WISH to respond to the follow-up letter by Dr RP Sheppard, regarding the issue of cyclists/pedestrians using the B4270 Llantwit Major to Llandow road.

It appears that Dr Sheppard will never accept any ideas that I have put forward, which I must emphasise again, are not pure suggestion but born out of 20+ years of experience on my part. He thankfully agreed with one of my points, but denounced the rest saying they were impractical.

Rather than doing this, I would appreciate him making some constructive ideas of his own, as like him I would like to see safer roads for cyclists and pedestrians.

I will not suggest any further ideas as he will no doubt find fault with them.

In these days of busy roads, the cyclist/pedestrian is in the minority and always going to have a hard time, unless this country's attitude to transport changes.

Unless local transport improves or designated cycle routes are implemented, this imbalance is always going to exist.

It's up to the said road users to make their journeys as safe as practical and reduce the risks.

A recent example that I must bring to your attention of someone with no regard for his own safety, was a gentleman I saw recently on the road in question, who was walking (thankfully facing the oncoming traffic) towards Llantwit Major as it was getting dark, wearing camouflage trousers and jacket.

He was not only risking his own life, but presenting a road safety hazard, as traffic was swerving to avoid him, due to not being able to see him early enough!

I have not seen him on this road since; hopefully he didn't come to any harm.

P.J Alexander, Brackla

£2,000 raised in just one day for Haiti

LAST Saturday, a group of students with bright yellow jackets and red buckets went to the shops in Llantwit Major.

They hoped to raise a little money to donate to the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

From early morning to late evening, they helped customers pack their shopping at Filco and stood around Somerfield, asking people if they would like to give a little contribution for the appeal.

With surprisingly heavy buckets, they arrived back at the campus of Atlantic College to count the donations. The students sorted out all the coins and notes under an hour, with amazing results: the residents of Llantwit Major had together donated £2,000 and 68 pennies.

This amount of money will provide water, supplies and a shelter for many families in Haiti.

Last Saturday, the people in Llantwit proved that with a little help from everyone you can make a huge difference.

Assi Askala, Atlantic College,

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL FEBRUARY 4)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
28 Thur	04.26	8.8	16.59	9.1
29 Fri	05.23	9.4	17.46	9.5
30 Sat	06.08	10.2	18.43	10.2
31 Sun	07.05	10.5	19.27	10.3
01 Mon	07.48	10.7	20.12	10.4
02 Tues	08.31	10.7	20.56	10.2
03 Wed	09.09	10.5	21.33	9.7
04 Thur	09.54	9.8	22.09	9.3

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National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
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AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
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Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support - Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 11.30am (Wed 4-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

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Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.

Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

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Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

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A total of more than 80 people attend the FocusBARRY meeting at the Hub

by TIM CHAPMAN

AT a meeting of the new FocusBARRY group on Friday night, January 22, many of the frustrations that the town's residents feel were laid bare.

There was standing room only as people crowded into the Hub's Jubilee Room with a total of 81 people, including some Vale councillors, attending – most inside the room, but a few spilling out into the corridor.

The team behind FocusBARRY, Brian Osborne, Dennis Harkus, Bryn Evans and Derek Hooper, were keen to gauge whether the group's aims of being a platform for independent Vale councillors, focussing on issues in the town, struck a note with the public.

Mr Hooper said that since he'd arrived from London 41 years ago, Barry appeared to have lost its identity. "Some of us feel the local authority is not responding to the needs of the people…What we want to do is find solutions to the aspirations of the people of the town."

Mr Harkus and Mr Osborne challenged the Vale Council's self-proclaimed notion that it was one of the best councils in Wales.

Mr Harkus said that the housebuilding policy in the town was "horrendous", and Mr Osborne declared that the local tourism industry was "dying" and that 'satisfaction in the Vale' surveys by the council, which claimed more than 90 per cent of people were happy with a wide range of services, could not be taken seriously.

The group members said that as things stood, the Vale Council cabinet was not held properly to account and that more transparency was needed in deciding planning issues in the town.

Another point they made was that a disproportionate amount of social housing was allocated to Barry, rather than it being spread throughout the Vale.

The FocusBARRY group had invited people to come along and express their views, and members of the audience were keen to make a number of points.

Mr Mac Tanner said: "We're attempting to bring about a change to a system that is ineffective. There are two ways to effect change, one is to change the system, the second is to elect someone who is accountable. We are ruled by a committee – with an elected mayor at least you can vote them out."

FocusBARRY members Derek Hooper, Dennis Harkus, Brian Osborne, and Bryn Evans were keen to canvass the views of the public in Barry.

Mrs Sylvia Bowen of the Keep Bryneithin Open group said her group could not fault the support of Labour and Plaid councillors in their fight to keep the Dinas Powys residential care home open, but had been frustrated by the ruling Conservative members voting at scrutiny meetings "en bloc".

She added: "The arrogance of people in power is what has to change."

Mrs Dianne Hooper said she was concerned about decisions on Barry being made by people elected from other areas – the town council was supportive during the Cemetery Approach controversy, the Vale Council had not been. "I feel that in the biggest town in Wales we should have some say in what our town wants!"

Mr Colin Wood said he believed that Barry had become a dumping ground "for housing…drug addicts, drunks and sex offenders."

Lack of facilities was a constant theme.

Mr Philip Clarke said a town should be judged on the amenities it provided. "A lot of those have gone. The council is the only one in the country that has built houses on a headland – normally that is sacred!"

One woman said: "Barry cinema closed and one was meant to be built on the Waterfront. There is still no cinema."

Another woman said that when her grandchildren visited the town there was nowhere to take them, while a few miles down the road in Cardiff there was every sort of leisure facility.

Mr Tony Williams appeared to capture the spirit of the meeting when he commented: "What can we do to turn it round in the next 10 years?

"What can we do for our children? All they want to do is build. We want amenities!"

Labour councillor Mr Chris Elmore told the meeting that he and Coun Pamela Drake had worked hard on behalf of the people in their ward putting in "hours and hours", holding regular surgeries and leading on important campaigns in the town.

He told The GEM afterwards that he had been keen to emphasise the hard work put in by councillors on local issues.

He explained: "Coun Drake and I hold monthly advice surgeries and distribute monthly newsletters to keep residents informed of issues in the Castleland ward such as the campaign we are leading to keep Barry Driving Test Centre Open or supporting the residents' campaign to stop the wood bio-mass plant coming to the local area.

"We also attend Vale Council meetings, PACT meetings, school governors' meetings, community events, along with conducting regular telephone surgeries and house calls to constituents."

Following the meeting, the FocusBARRY group members said they were encouraged by the number of people wanting to join and to become active members.

Bryn Evans, who first spoke about the need to elect independent councillors in the Barry area a year ago, told The GEM: "I have said that we need an independent party and this is the start of it.

"I thought the meeting was well attended and people were able to have their say, unlike at a council meeting. This is the start of Barry people making their views known.

"A significant number of people have trusted us with their confidential contact details, and indicated that they would support the group and that they would vote for associated independent candidates."

The chief executive of the Vale Council John Maitland Evans said: "The council is held to account externally by a variety of auditors and regulators and internally by its own governance systems, which incorporate five scrutiny committees.

"The work of the planning service is highly controlled by legislation and the council has an impressive track record in dealing with proposals effectively."

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Museum call from local historian

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

One of his concerns is that items of historical interest are being taken out of Barry to be displayed elsewhere.

"Visiting other towns in the UK, it is apparent that other areas deem it important to preserve their heritage, whether it be in small-scale museums or large exhibition centres.

"The Vale needs to have such a building and it could be sited in Barry.

"I am concerned when I hear that items relating to Barry have now moved out of the town to venues such as Blaengarw. Surely this is ludicrous? Items relating to the history of the Vale should be on display in this county."

Dr Hicks said: "This is a key moment in time. Without this source of funding, such a facility could never be provided for the people of Barry and its visitors, and there is a real danger that this opportunity could be lost for another generation.

"I'm calling on GEM readers to show their support by contacting their local Vale councillors so that the rich, varied and important history of Barry and the Vale will be preserved for posterity and displayed in an appropriate venue for the benefit and education of local people and visitors."

Dr Hicks pointed out: "Work obviously needs to be done to ensure sustainability of such a project and to decide the format of the venue and its artefacts, but grant-funding is available once the initial building is constructed and specialist advice from a variety of historical venues could be obtained.

"The educational benefit to adults, and particularly to the children of Barry and the Vale, would be immense.

Dr Jonathan Hicks says now is the time to build a museum for Barry and the Vale.

"There are some excellent small museums across the Vale – for example, the one in Cowbridge – but this county lacks a larger-scale, permanent display facility which would provide an invaluable education opportunity for our primary and secondary schools and college."

He added: "There are also many local history societies across the Vale – the ones in Wenvoe, Rhoose, Dinas Powys and Penarth spring to mind – and I urge the members of these societies to speak to their local councillors in support of this idea."

The chairman of Pride in Barry, Paul Haley, said he was strongly in favour of the project: "It needs to be sustainable so a compelling business plan is needed that will ensure good visitor numbers.

"There is a good case for funding the building by use of the 'section 106 planning gain' process from the Waterfront.

"It either needs to be in a building that reflects the docks heritage, using good design and quality materials, or in a purpose built building with the same high quality threshold."

Mr Haley added:"It will require strong management and a willingness for active partnership between the Vale Council, Barry Town Council, the Assembly, ABP, Persimmon, the local community, and the voluntary and private sectors.

"Pride In Barry supports this and believes that there has never been a better time to take this forward and we are working with Dr Hicks."

Dilys Colbourne of Barry Citizen's Action Group said the Old Pump House at the docks would be an "ideal location", and that a gift shop, restaurant, cafe, and bike hire, to allow people to explore the local area, should be included in any scheme.

Readers can e-mail their thoughts to Dr Hicks at: ninian27@btinternet.com

TIM CHAPMAN

Parents' fears over school transport funding proposals

THE parents of children at a school in Barry are to lobby councillors over Vale Council proposals to cut funding for free transport for 16 to 19-year-old learners from September.

Last week, The GEM reported how the political battlelines were being drawn over the future of free school transport in Barry and the Vale.

The Labour group on the council is against any cut, but the Conservative controlled council is consulting on two options – contributing to students' fares on public transport, or continuing to provide transport which students will have to pay for. .

Parents of pupils at St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School say they are concerned about the impact of Vale Council proposals for students over 16, who transfer from St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School to St David's Catholic College in Cardiff.

Commenting on possible transport cuts, Mr Mike Clinch, the headteacher at St Richard Gwyn, said: "This is a very serious development. Charging for students to carry on their education is not something which should be considered when families are finding money tight.

"There are no direct public transport options for students, particularly from Llantwit Major, St Athan and Rhoose. It would take hours for students to get to St David's and several buses or trains.

"Students at St Richard Gwyn have done very well at St David's, and have valued the opportunity of carrying on their education in a strong faith-based environment. There is no alternative provision in the Vale. Sadly, this proposal will make it very difficult for some of our students in the future."

A parents meeting is being held at the school, and they plan to lobby councillors prior to any decision being made.

Paula Ham, head of strategic planning and performance at the Vale Council, said: *"Implementation of a charge towards the cost of transport would result in the current contract vehicles providing transport to St David's College being retained by the Vale.*

"Parents would be asked to pay a contribution towards the cost of transport, although this will still be heavily subsidised by the Vale. We will also consider introducing a discount for low income families.

"This matter will be considered by the lifelong learning scrutiny committee on February 17, followed by cabinet on March 17."

Burial charge angers family

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Rebecca said that she, her sister Hannah (28) and the rest of the family were shocked to be charged three times the standard figure, and disappointed that, in view of Jayne's long association with the town, no concession was made on the fee.

"I think it is disgusting. We wrote to Barry Town Council because we were unhappy with the charge, and then appealed on November 22, but they wrote back to say no.

"I feel it is disrespectful when my mother was prepared to do anything for anyone. She was loved and respected by so many people."

Coun Bronwen Brookes, the chair of the amenities committee of Barry Town Council, confirmed that the council enforced a strict policy on people who left the town out of choice, rather than the need for medical care.

She said that when an interment form had been received, the family were told of the council's policy of triple fees for non-residents. The council was asked to reconsider the decision following information supplied by Jayne's daughter.

Coun Brookes said: "The contents were duly considered by the deputy executive officer and declined on the grounds that the person in question relocated to outside Barry out of choice, rather than the need to seek medical care.

"Following the officer's decision and reply, a further letter was received from the sister of the deceased, requesting that the decision of the officer be reconsidered by a committee of council. The request was acceded to and placed as an item on the agenda of the amenities committee for consideration.

"At that meeting held on November 30, 2009 members of the committee fully considered the request and unanimously agreed to uphold the decision of the officer, and also that a suitably sensitive letter be sent to the family advising them of the committee's decision.

"The council has taken the view that consideration will be given to those former residents of Barry who have had to leave the area to obtain nursing or medical care, in the four to five years prior to them passing away, that cannot be provided in Barry."

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As the festive lights come down...

High Street considers a summer festival

RIGHT: *The High Street volunteers were busy last Sunday.*

LAST Sunday morning saw a hive of activity in Barry's High Street when, after a hearty breakfast supplied by Tony's Café, it was down to work for the usual bunch of volunteers (pictured).

With the help of Floodlighting and Electrical Services Ltd, they set about the job of taking down High Street's festive Christmas lights. Within two hours, they were all down and packed away ready for next time!

Anthony Hopkins (chairman of High Street Traders Association) said: "The Street looks bare now, but we've got some great ideas lined up for St David's Day, Easter weekend and who knows, maybe even a summer festival!

"Due to public demand, we've decided to run our monthly raffle (£100 shopping vouchers) right throughout the year, hopefully generating enough funding for us to hold various events throughout the year.

"2010 looks set to be a great year for High Street. We've got some new businesses opening up and some great ideas to make High Street a fantastic place to shop, where customers are treated as people and not just numbers or statistics on a supermarket database."

'What we need is a shoppers' car park!'

JUST who is in charge of planning applications in the Vale of Glamorgan?

An application has been put forward to build two five-bedroom houses, four two-bedroom houses and one one-bedroom flat on the site of the old Hyper Value shop in High Street, Barry, with the provision of only six parking spaces.

Now, come on Vale planners, High Street already has enough of a problem with parking; to allow a development of this size without adequate car parking spaces will only add to the problem.

Isn't it about time that the Vale Council bought this land and turned it into a shoppers' car park?

It is something that has been needed in High Street for years.

So, come on Vale Council, this is too good an opportunity to be missed!

Don't let it be turned into more housing, when there are plenty of empty houses on The Waterfront.

Mr D Jones, Barry

Are we happy? No!

WITH reference to the letter in last week's GEM from Bryn Evans on Focus on BARRY, he asked nine questions – are you happy with? ... ***but the answer to all nine is NO!***

Gavin & Stacey put Barry Island back on the map but if anyone is tempted to visit Barry, the lasting impression they will take home with them is "what a dump".

Councillors, are you value for the money forked out by the taxpayer? Do you represent the voters on your ward? Our ward has never, to my knowledge, had ANY surgeries.

(Name and address supplied)

The Ware family's festive cheer for local charity!

THE Ware family of Barry are the toast of the town – after putting their home in lights to raise £600 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

The festive display attracted visitors from far and wide to the house in Barrians Way.

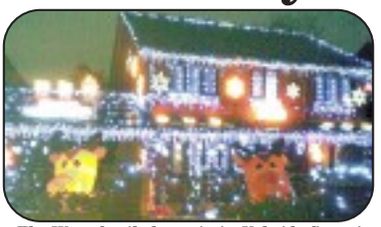
Sue Pickin, fundraising manager for Macmillan Cancer Support, said: "I would like to say a huge thank you to Tony Ware and all his family for their tremendous hard work, from putting up the lights to taking them down again, and for collecting donations from the many visitors who came to view their house."

She went on: "Every day, 822 people are told they have cancer and they all need treatment and support.

"Macmillan currently helps more than half of these people and our aim is to support everyone affected by cancer in the UK. Macmillan relies on donations for 99 per cent of its income, which is why the support of people like Tony and his family is so valuable."

Macmillan Cancer Support offers help, advice, information and support for people affected by cancer from diagnosis onwards. In south-east Wales in 2008 it gave patient grants totalling £302,000 to 727 people, and employs Macmillan professionals, in hospitals and the community, to support local people living with cancer.

For more information on Macmillan Cancer Support, contact Sue on 01656 867966, or email spickin@macmillan.org.uk



The Ware family home in its Yuletide finery!

Penarth aviation society offers varied programme

PENARTH Aviation Society was founded in September 2005 to promote all aspects of aviation.

Speakers give illustrated talks and the topics are numerous including: piloting Concorde, RAF air traffic control, RAF fighter control during the Cold War, The Falkland Islands, aircraft brokerage, the Air Training Corps, British Aerospace, aircrew flight planning, South Wales and Gwent Police Helicopter Unit, air traffic control, navigating across the Sahara Desert, model aircraft construction and flight simulation.

Visits have been made to the museum at Royal Naval Air Station, Yeovilton, the air museum RAF Cosford, Cold War Museum at RAF Cosford, Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT) at RAF Fairford, air traffic control at Cardiff Airport and The Gun Tower Museum at Pembroke Dock.

Planned visits for 2010 include: The Sunderland Trust Museum, Pembroke Dock, Great Vintage Flying Weekend: May 8-9, Cotswold Airport, Kemble, and the Cotswold Airshow, Kemble, June 19-20.

There is a very convivial atmosphere at meetings, provided by the members who are from all walks of life, but all with one common interest – aviation.

New members are welcome. For further details visit www.penarthaviationsociety.co.uk.

BARRIE HOWELL

Penarth Aviation Society
www.penarthaviationsociety.co.uk
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Penarth Conservative Club,
Stanwell Road, Penarth CF64 2EZ.
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What will Bosch do with its 200 acres of prime Vale land?

REPORT by GEM STAFF

AS negotiations continue in an attempt to persuade Bosch to keep a manufacturing capability in the Vale, the scale of the commercial 'nest egg' that it will retain became clear this week.

The company is taking the work done at its Miskin plant to Hungary, with the loss of 900 jobs, and last week, The GEM asked the question: '*How much land in the Vale does Bosch own?*'

This week, the company issued a statement revealing that the existing plant takes up a mere five per cent of Bosch's landholding.

The statement read:

"*The land that Bosch occupies is owned by Bosch. It is approximately 200 acres of land in total, and the plant facilities occupy only 10 acres of this site.*

"*There are no current plans for the site as the final decision to phase out production of the plant must be agreed by the Bosch board.*"

In last week's GEM article, the former deputy leader of the Vale Council, Tony Williams, said that the now-defunct South Glamorgan County Council had stepped in and granted planning permission on at least 164 acres of that land.

In the company statement, Bosch confirmed that there had been "*strong interest*" in the land from developers.

The statement said: "*Bosch understands the strong interest in the land as it would be ideal for future development in the region.*

"*Due to its prime location, we have already been contacted by a large number of interested parties. Bosch will inform all relevant parties in due course once a decision on the future of the site or a potential sale is made.*"

The news that the land could be sold for development came as no surprise to Mr Williams.

He said; "Everyone knows about the cash inducements that were paid to Bosch to get them to come, but the land deal has hardly been mentioned.

"However, I can only speculate on the value of this 200-acre nest egg.

"I strongly believe that the value of this land should be a factor in any compensation deal agreed with workers who have lost their jobs."

WORKERS STILL HOPE

Meanwhile, unions and workers at the plant were hoping that a last-minute deal might be reached .

Colin Tucker, who has worked at Bosch for 15 years and is on the plant council, a go-between body for the workers and management, said the employees still hoped their jobs might be saved.

He said: "Talks on the future will continue until the end of February and people feel in a state of limbo, until they know what is going to happen.

"Last week, I went to the Assembly and met the First Minister, Carwyn Jones, and was pleased to see how clued up he was on what was happening.

"A lot of questions have been raised by people as to what can be done at this late stage."

Mr Tucker said there was still the chance that Bosch may want to make use of the skills at the Miskin plant.

He explained: "There are other divisions at Bosch and maybe work could be provided by one of them."

The Vale's AM, Jane Hutt, told The GEM: "Over the past year, I have been meeting with the plant managers and the workforce plant council. We offered the management every assistance from the Assembly Government – Proact, support for research and development – urging them to bring new product lines to Wales.

"At every meeting, we were told by management they did not want or need our assistance and that it was '*out of their hands*'.

"Last week. I met with the plant council, with their union representatives and a statement was made by the Deputy First Minister in the Senedd.

"We have not given up and are making further representations to Bosch chiefs in Stuttgart," the AM vowed.

We welcome your news and views. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk***

'MoD college now past the point of no return'

– VALE MP'S CLAIM

VALE MP, John Smith, last week welcomed the new First Minister's 'close personal interest' in "making sure the benefits of the £12 billion Defence Technical College at MoD St Athan are maximised in Wales."

Mr Smith said: "I welcome Carwyn Jones's firm commitment to the St Athan project.

"I want people here in the Vale and across Wales to remember that both the UK Government and the Welsh Assembly Government are fully behind the Defence Technical College going ahead at St Athan. They have repeatedly backed up their words of support with deeds.

"To date, the Government has underwritten over £110 million of essential works linked with the project to get the site ready for construction.

"I believe that we have gone beyond the point of no return and this Government has no intention of walking away from St Athan."

In his letter to Mr Smith, who has been at the forefront of the campaign to bring the tri-service MoD college to Wales, at St Athan, Carwyn Jones, who is AM for Bridgend, said:

"I fully agree with you that the Defence Technical College is a major opportunity for Wales at St Athan. I very much support and welcome this investment as it will provide a significant boost for jobs, skills training and supply chain opportunities.

"I know that you have championed its cause from the outset and I want to reassure you that my officials are working closely with the Ministry of Defence, Metrix and with local partners to deliver the project and to maximize the benefits for Wales.

"Rest assured that I will continue to take a close personal interest in this matter," Mr Jones promised.

'Big drop in crime figures'

– police report says Vale is safer

CRIME figures released by the Home Office show that crime fell in the Vale during the 12 months to September 2009, compared to the year before, a police spokesman stated this week.

The report on crime figures recorded that there were 1,040 fewer victims of crime for the year, a decrease of 11.4 per cent.

There were significant reductions in dwelling burglaries (down 17.8 per cent/65 offences) violent crime (down 13.7 per cent/272 offences) and criminal damage (down 15.1 per cent/350 offences).

Chief Superintendent Carl Davies of the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend Police, said: "I am are very proud of the achievements of my officers and staff in the Vale in reducing and detecting crime, especially the reduction in burglaries of homes and businesses with 149 fewer victims.

"This clearly demonstrates the passion and commitment of staff to solve issues with and for the community.

"The overall reduction of 11.4 per cent in all crime has been achieved, not only by our relentless pursuit of targeted criminals, who commit a disproportionate number of the crimes committed in our communities, but also by work done with the local authority, other partners and the voluntary sector.

"In the Vale, we are very fortunate to have a good relationship with the community, and I encourage members of the public to continue giving us help and information to keep the community safe."

CCTV helps arrests

CCTV, working under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with five arrests in the week to January 24.

CCTV contacted the police on 16 occasions. The arrests, all in Barry, related to wanted on warrant (Wyndham Street); drunk in charge of a car (Station Approach); assault (Dunlin Court), theft (Barry Island); and criminal damage (Holton Road).

All Saints Primary pupils learn to care for their teeth

IT was 'smiles all round' for the infant pupils at All Saints Church in Wales Primary School last week when they had a visit from Karan and Rebecca of Cardiff and Vale NHS, who gave a demonstration on how to keep teeth sparkling and healthy.

With the help of the Dental Dragon Puppets, the children were shown how to brush properly and there was a display of food and drinks to show which things are healthy or harmful to teeth.

The children were surprised to learn how much sugar is contained in fruit drinks!

Karan and Rebecca gave the children stickers, activity packs and a tooth brushing chart to remind them of the lesson, and they promised to return shortly to check on those sparkling smiles.

Help from the Family Fund

FAMILIES caring for a disabled child might like to know about help available from the Family Fund.

Many families need to keep their heating on constantly to prevent infections or to help their child's mobility. When schools close, having children home all day means further expense. This leaves less money for essential items such as clothing, bedding or a washing machine.

The Family Fund gives grants for these things and more, including holidays and outings, driving lessons, recreational equipment and toys. We would welcome applications from your readers.

Details from www.familyfund.org or telephone 0845 130 4542.

Derek Walpole,(Chief executive, Family Fund)

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Lessons from the past in standing up for people...

AS we continue to witness the devastation of Haiti on our television screens, we hear about the fire service team from Wales who have played their part in rescuing people from the rubble, even after many days of agony following the earthquake.

This week, we heard that over £1 million has been raised in Wales, including schools, businesses and churches in the Vale of Glamorgan. At least 22 Indian restaurants and Take Aways in the Vale of Glamorgan have joined the relief effort, offering 50 per cent of their takings yesterday.

I visited as many as I could in Barry to say thank you for their support.

The First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM issued a statement saying he was proud that Welsh people are playing a vital part in this massive humanitarian effort are are standing up for the people of Haiti.

This week was also Holocaust Memorial Week, with a programme of events in the Vale – including the moving and inspiring exhibition in Art Central with the Legacy of Hope, involving artist in residence Nicola Tucker and Vale schools who produced art work, following workshops with the artist on the Holocaust.

The film 'Against the Tide' had its UK premiere on Thursday, January 28 at the Memorial Hall. The Race Equality First 2010 calendar displaying the children's art competition winners was displayed at Art Central.

As Louise Hector of the Legacy of Hope said: "*Holocaust Memorial Day 2010 is especially poignant as it marks the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.*

"The day is an opportunity to listen to the voices from the Holocaust and Nazi persecution, and to make the lessons of hope for a safer, inclusive society where the differences between us are respected as a reality today and in the future."

As we settle into the business and pressures of 2010 in the Assembly, we look with optimism at the latest labour market statistics which show encouraging signs of improvement in Wales, but this is set back by our deep disappointment about the Bosch announcement that they are pulling out of Wales.

Over the past year, I have been meeting with the plant managers and the workforce plant council. We offered the management every assistance from the Assembly Government – Proact, support for research and development, urging them to bring new product lines to Wales.

At every meeting, we were told by management they did not want or need our assistance and that it was "*out of their hands*".

Last week, I met the plant council, with their union representatives, and a statement was made by the Deputy First Minister in the Senedd.

We have not given up, and are making further representations to Bosch chiefs in Stuttgart.

We must stand up for the highly skilled Bosch workforce. There must be new opportunities for the Bosch workforce here in Wales in this factory we helped to pay for.

Finally, we must recognise that there are people throughout Wales in every community 'standing up for people' and this includes young people and older people.

This week, Jane Davidson announced the six young people who are to become the figureheads for young people on climate change, after winning a Welsh Assembly Government competition.

One of them is Rose Stevens aged 15 from Barry. The six youngsters will spend a year 'in office' spreading the word about how people can take simple but effective steps to reduce their carbon footprint while saving money at the same time.

They will make sure the voice of young people can be heard at a high level – standing up for the environment.

Last week, we debated the work of the Older People's Commissioner in Wales who is standing up for older people as their independent champion.

We are the first country in the world to appoint an Older People's Commissioner and we were the first in the UK to appoint a Children's Commissioner.

They can't solve all the problems and issues facing older people and children, but they are independent from government and we respect them for their roles.

They can tell us what action we should be taking to respond to the needs of older people and children from their experience and evidence.

Standing up for people is an important part of the role of any elected representative, at every level of government – as well as in our workplaces, communities and in response to natural disaster and conflict across the world.

We can all learn from the events of the past and present in this respect – and make sure our voices are heard.

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by Jane Hutt AM
(Minister for Business and Budget)

Vale AM's praise for exhibition

Jane Hutt AM with Nicola Tucker's work at the Art Central's Holocaust memorial exhibition, which is open until January 30.

Rhoose mum is Lib Dems choice

ELUNED PARROTT (35) will contest the Vale parliamentary seat for the Liberal Democrats at the general election later this year.

She lives in Rhoose with her husband and young family, and works at Cardiff University (where she also studied) as community engagement manager, leading a team that organises educational outreach projects and events for the public.

Mrs Parrott is chair of the Vale of Glamorgan Lib Dems and has been "an active campaigner in the Vale for many years".

This will be the first time that she has stood in a general election.

Commenting on her selection, she said: " I am delighted and honoured to have been given the opportunity to fight for the Vale and represent the views of local people on a wider stage.

"People see the Vale as an affluent area with few problems, but we all know that our young people struggle to find work locally and many of our commercial centres are struggling.

'The Vale needs a strong voice in Westminster to bring reliable investment here."

***ABOVE:** Eluned Parrott, who will be contesting the Vale parliamentary seat for the Liberal Democrats at the general election.*

Rhoose speeding

NEIGHBOURHOOD police officers in Rhoose are warning motorists to drive within the speed limits or risk facing prosecution.

PC Phil Davies, the Rhoose community beat manager, has recently completed a course for the 'hand held speed reduction device' after concerns about speeding traffic, particularly in the 20mph zone outside Rhoose Primary School, were brought up at the last Rhoose PACT meeting.

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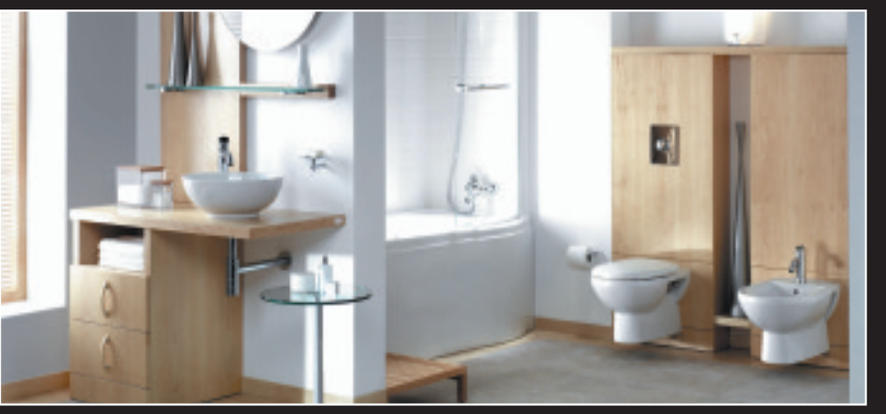

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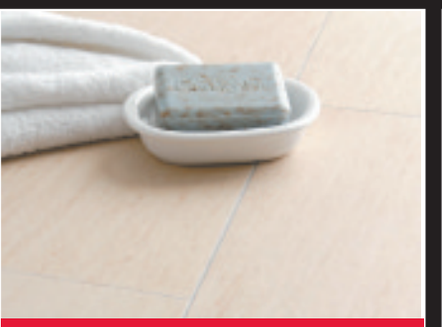

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PAWS for thought – of the animals

CHRISTMAS may be gone, but it is not forgotten as far as PAWS' furry friends are concerned, thanks to the generosity of the local community!

The Porthcawl Animal Welfare Society is pleased to report that a number of initiatives held over the festive season generated some much-needed funds for the charity.

The sum of £180 was raised from our two Christmas trees of remembrance, which were festooned with stars purchased by people in fond memory of their favourite pets; while avid swimmer Helga Collier braved the Bristol Channel for the annual Porthcawl Swim, raising £400.

The proceeds from both were used towards feeding, vaccinating, spaying/neutering and micro-chipping just some of the many cats and dogs we rescued in December.

Funding for the charity is an ongoing challenge and PAWS would like to thank the local community for their invaluable support.

It was heartening to know that needy cats and dogs were remembered at the end of a difficult year for many!

Alexis Kirsten
(for the PAWS volunteers)

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'INDEPENDENT VOICES WELCOME IN THE VALE'

MAY I be allowed to comment on what is possibly one of the most crass remarks that I have ever heard a politician make in the pages of your newspaper?

The comment by Plaid's Shirley Hodges that "The problem with Independent councillors is that they don't have to care about anyone other than themselves", is an insult to the thousands of hard working, conscientious Independent councillors throughout the country and almost defies belief.

I, for one, welcome the participation of those local individuals who are prepared to contribute their time and efforts to help administer their local community under an Independent label.

Mrs Hodge presumably feels that independence from a party line would be a hindrance to genuine Independent councillors free of such dictatorship. I'm afraid that I find the logic behind this argument quite baffling.

Chuck into the mix Plaid claiming credit for everything – from negotiating the fall of the Berlin wall, to being responsible for every positive thing that has ever happened in the Vale, despite their often minimal or non-existent involvement – and it is hardly surprising that they are again trying to hop on the back of the 'Save the Cemetery Approach' group's valiant efforts to help the community.

I say best of luck to the Independents in the next round of local authority elections, rather than those who run round claiming credit for others' hard work.

Kevin Mahoney
(UKIP candidate for Vale of Glamorgan)

Be Loud, Be Clear – how to help beat bowel cancer

TOO many people are needlessly dying from bowel cancer; it is the UK's second biggest cancer killer, yet over 90 per cent of cases could be treated successfully if diagnosed early.

That's where screening comes in; if you are aged 60-69, you are eligible for the NHS bowel cancer screening and will receive a kit every two years to complete and return by post.

January 25-31 is BE LOUD BE CLEAR, Beating Bowel Cancer's annual campaigning week which raises awareness of bowel cancer.

For 2010, the charity is urging everyone eligible to participate in screening.

In addition, Beating Bowel Cancer is calling for an extension of the screening programme to include everyone aged 50-74, so that more people at risk of bowel cancer have the opportunity to be screened and beat the disease.

My grandfather died of bowel cancer and my mother is currently fighting the disease, so I know only too well how important it is to BE LOUD about bowel cancer.

For more information about BE LOUD BE CLEAR, including fun ways you can get involved, visit *www.beatingbowelcancer.org*.

Matt Dawson MBE
(Patron of Beating Bowel Cancer)

St Cyres head's new position

MR BRIAN LIGHTMAN, who has been the headteacher at St Cyres School in Penarth for more than ten years, is to leave in the summer, after being confirmed as the new general secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders.

Mr Lightman will take over from Dr John Dunford, who is retiring at the end of August 2010.

Mr Lightman has been on the ASCL's council since 1998 and was the association president in 2007-08. He was president of ASCL Cymru in 2003-04.

He said: "Having been a member of ASCL for nearly 20 years, I am proud of the quality of service the association provides.

"Under John Dunford's inspirational stewardship of the last 12 years, the association has played an exceptional part in the leadership of education services in the UK.

"I am looking forward to the exciting challenge of building on this strong base and leading ASCL through the next stages of its development."

John Morgan, the organisation's president for 2009-10 and head of Conyers School in Stockton-on-Tees, led the general secretary appointment panel.

He said: "I am delighted that Brian Lightman will be ASCL's next general secretary. He is an excellent headteacher and was an outstanding president of the association in 2007-08.

"His passion for education and learning, and his long-standing commitment to ASCL, and supporting our members, make him an ideal person to lead the association."

Mr Lightman became the headteacher at St Cyres in 1999, and prior to that was the headteacher at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

WE welcome your news and views. Email them to the editorial department:
ggem@internet-today.co.uk

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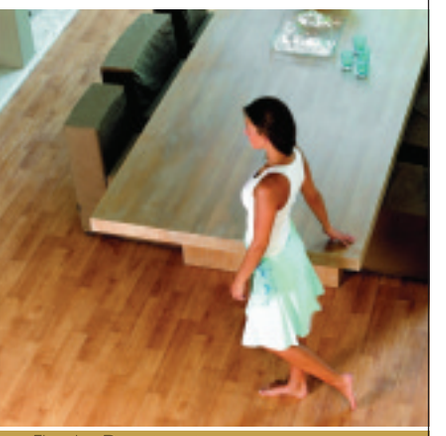

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Army officer Adam spends birthday on patrol in Afghanistan

A VALE soldier has celebrated his 25th birthday – by leading his men into action in Afghanistan.

Platoon Commander Lieut Adam Libbey of 1st Battalion the Royal Welsh (Royal Welch Fusiliers) was on his first operation in Helmand province.

Lieut Libbey, from Barry, said the morale in his platoon was "high", and added: "We'd spent lots of time waiting and training, so it was good to go out on the ground for the first time – and it was my birthday on the day we set out, so you can't beat that.

"The platoon was excited to go out there. We've been training for more than six months, so everyone was just eager to get out there and do the job. It's what we've trained for."

The role of platoon commander is a busy and wide-ranging one on tour.

"I have 35 blokes under my command at the moment and I have to make sure they are all doing the right thing at the right time," he said.

"I have section commanders at the lower levels, but I am the overall commander of the 35. I am concerned with everything from their and their families' welfare to orders on the ground."

Adam has two brothers, Gareth (serving with the Royal Engineers) and Ryan (at university).

His parents, Rick and Linda, are supportive of his role in the battalion: "I'm from an Army background, so my dad knows what is going on, but my mother still finds it very hard, especially as I was away for Christmas. But she knows I want to be out here, so it makes it a bit easier."

Twelve hours after they returned, Adam discussed the operation with the other platoon commanders while checking his kit.

"It was a successful operation," he reported. "The aim was to disrupt the insurgents and gain intelligence, which we did. In fact, we gathered more than we expected.

"There was pretty intense fighting, with contacts lasting hours but everyone did well. We worked with the ANSF (Afghan National Security Forces) who were outstanding.

"They are a great asset to have on the ground – they talk easily with the locals and have an excellent feel for the atmospherics.

"This enabled us to have early warning when something was about to happen. The boys are now carrying out admin and checking kit, relaxing a little before the next op."

At home, Adam plays rugby for the battalion rugby team – a sport he describes as his "life passion".

"Obviously it hasn't been much of a season as we're out here, but hopefully when we get back, we will win the Army Cup again! The Royal Welsh, historically, has always had a good rugby team.

"As with a lot of people from south Wales, it's all about the rugby. Also, I live down by the seaside, so I sometimes go fishing or kayaking," Lieut Libbey added.

The changing face of a Cadoxton landmark

ABOVE: Cadoxton House as it is today.

ABOVE: Where have all the trees gone? The land around Cadoxton House.

THE face of a well known Barry landmark – Cadoxton House, has changed after the land around it was shorn of trees.

The GEM reported last week on how work had started on the 18th century premises to convert it into a community building to be used by statutory, voluntary and charitable organisations.

A number of trees have been felled to allow for a new access road into the car park and the Vale Council confirmed that the trees were not subject to preservation orders.

One GEM reader was, Alan Selby, was dismayed that trees had been removed.

He said: "Having read the article about the felling of trees at Cadoxton House, I once again hold my head in my hands at the ridiculous assertion concerning the Monkey Puzzle Tree that was felled.

"Apparently, because it didn't have a preservation order attached to it, there was no problem in cutting it down.

"This was a landmark tree in Cadoxton which had no protection against an unfeeling council!" he protested.

Lifeboat helps out 'bailers'

REPORTS that a small boat was in danger of sinking off Sully Island sent Barry Island Lifeboat racing to the scene last Saturday.

"On arrival, the three people on board were trying to 'bail out' the boat. When the lifeboat crew were able to inspect the boat, they found there was a partial equipment failure.

"This was rectified and the lifeboat was able to escort the boat towards Penarth marina," spokesman Gerry Adams reported.

Tomorrow, January 29, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution will be holding SOS Appeal Day, with special events using the SOS theme – eg Sip Our Soup, Savour Our Sausages, Sing Our Sea songs.

Mr Adams explained that money raised goes to operational costs, purchase of equipment and training of mostly volunteer crews.

"Last year, the RNLI had its busiest year with more than 9,000 launches of lifeboats and an increased presence on many more beaches in the UK through the RNLI Lifeguards.

"When I was a crew member for my first 18 years with the Barry Dock Lifeboat, we used to average about 12 launches a year, and although 2009 was fairly quiet for our station, we averaged 20-30 launches," he said.

"On Friday, we will have a special guest, Mr John Williams, who has raised money for the SOS Appeal. His grandson was rescued and successfully resuscitated by the Barry Dock Lifeboat crew last year."

News from St Cyres School

MENSA

TWO St Cyres pupils, Sam Berg and Marcus Hicks, have recently qualified to join Mensa.

Mensa was founded in England in 1946 by Roland Berrill, a barrister, and Dr Lance Ware, a scientist and lawyer. They had the idea of forming a society for bright people, with the only qualification for membership being a high IQ.

The society welcomes people from every walk of life whose IQ is in the top 2 per cent of the population. Sam and Marcus were among a group of able and talented year-10 pupils from St Cyres who took the Mensa IQ test, with all pupils proving to have an IQ in the top 10 per cent of the population.

Success

A SPECIAL assembly to mark the outstanding success of our year-10 pupils was called this week as the school received the news that 220 pupils from this year group had passed their Level 2 Key Skills qualification in ICT.

What is even more remarkable is that these pupils actually completed this work during year-9.

This Key Skills qualification is an important building block for the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification, which is a core part of our curriculum in year-10, and is studied alongside the usual GCSE qualifications.

Pupils are currently completing their 'Application of Number' portfolios and these will be entered later in the term.

St Cyres has a strong national reputation for outstanding success in the Advanced Diploma WBQ qualification, which is studied by students in our sixth form and the indications are, based on these results, that pupils will enjoy the same levels of success in this Intermediate Diploma.

The school wishes to congratulate all pupils who received this qualification and we look forward to hearing news of further success from this year group.

Vale AM's Welsh practice!

VALE AM, Jane Hutt, had a chance to "practise my Welsh" when she welcomed the year-6 pupils from Ysgol Gwaun y Nant to the Senedd.

"It was lovely to meet the Ysgol Gwaun y Nant pupils and to answer their questions, as well as telling them about my job. I was able to practise my Welsh and ask them questions about their school council."

Organisation 'Lites' up youngsters' lives!

Charity helps Ty Hafan with children's high-tech entertainment treat...

CHILDREN at Ty Hafan have been given a 'state-of-the-art' entertainment package from a national charity.

At a recent special celebration, the technology charity Lifelites officially handed over a fully managed package of the latest home technologies for the children and young people at Ty Hafan, the family hospice for young lives.

This is the third upgrade from Lifelites for the families who use the hospice. Now they can play the games with fabulous new HD wide screens, and the computer equipment comes with adaptations such as touch screens and special mice.

This will enable all the children and young people, whatever their abilities, to continue their studies and talk to their friends and teachers; and new digital and video cameras also help to make a lasting record of the special time they spend together at the hospice.

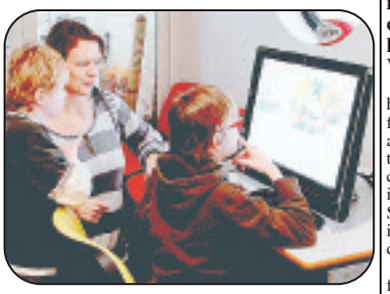
The equipment will complement the 'home-from-home' atmosphere the hospice creates. All this is provided with managed internet to keep the children and young people safe while they surf.

Lifelites is also supplying all of the telecoms and Sky connections free of charge, and will maintain the equipment along the way, meaning that the hospice's own funds and care staff activities can remain concentrated on delivering care for the children and young people, and support for their families.

Jayne Saunders, director of care at Ty Hafan said: "The computers and equipment will be extremely popular with the children and young people using the hospice, providing hours of enjoyment, interaction and fun (not to mention a welcome distraction for many of the parents). We would like to sincerely thank Lifelites for their ongoing support.

"We are delighted to be able to provide this package for Ty Hafan," said Simone Enefer-Doy, chief executive of Lifelites.

"We know from the care staff and parents what a difference it makes to the children and young people to be able to use the equipment using the special adaptations and software we provide, and how it adds to their enjoyment of the time they spend at the hospice."



Ty Hafan hospice care worker Mags Butler, with brothers Sam and Michael Gooding, enjoying the new equipment.

Torchlight walk for Haiti victims

MEMBERS of St Baruc's Church are inviting people in Barry to join them on a torchlight walk to raise money for those in need after the earthquake in Haiti.

The fundraising event has been organised by St Baruc's Church, Barry Island, and will take place on Friday, February 12 at 7pm.

Walkers are asked to carry a torch, and to wear an item of high visibility clothing.

An organiser said: "The theme is to bring some light into the lives of the people in despair in Haiti. The walk will start at All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry, and go around the garden suburb area, returning to All Saints.

"It will be three miles long, but with an option to do just two."

She continued: "Donations may be brought on the night, or taken to Island Leisure Family Amusement Centre on the promenade under the western shelter, Barry Island, on the weekends.

"They can also be taken to St Baruc's Church, or All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry on Sunday mornings."

All money collected will be paid to Christian Aid via the Parish of Barry account.

COUNCIL LAUNCHES A NEW HELPLINE IN BID TO FIGHT HATE CRIME

A NEW helpline for people to report incidents of hate crime has been launched by the Vale Council.

The confidential helpline is among the first in Wales. It will act as a valuable channel for the council, working closely with local equality organisations and South Wales Police, to identify and tackle incidents.

A hate crime is classified as either a physical or verbal attack motivated by the victim's race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

To mark the launch, local organisations including Stonewall Cymru, Show Racism the Red Card, South Wales Police, Cardiff & Vale Coalition of Disabled People, Race Equality First, Atal y Fro and the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services joined council officers, members and Vale Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams at the Mayor's Parlour. Vale council leader, Coun Gordon Kemp, said: "Even though more hate crime incidents are being reported in our area, there's still a long way to go. This helpline will provide a valuable method of communication for all of those affected by this type of crime."

Supported by a 'report a hate crime' function available on the council's website, the new helpline will allow victims, or those who are witness to a crime, to report details to the council. The service is entirely confidential and callers have the option to remain anonymous.

Alicja Zalesinska, of Race Equality First, said: "It's very important that helplines like this exist, especially for those who are afraid to speak up if not encouraged, so that there's always someone out there to help."

Robert Goddard, of Stonewall Cymru, agreed: "This is a really important initiative and this launch shows the Vale's commitment to dealing with the issue of hate crime – that it's being taken seriously and dealt with seriously."

If you, or someone you know, has been the victim of a hate crime, make sure it's reported. Call 01446 700111 or visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/reporthatecrime to fill in an incident form.

Representatives of local equality organisations met with council officers, members and Vale Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams to celebrate the launch of the new 'Report a Hate Crime' helpline.

Plan for an 'active Wales'

Heritage minister Alun Ffred Jones and Wales's Chief Medical Officer, Dr Tony Jewell with a copy of the new action plan.

THE Heritage Minister, Alun Ffred Jones, and Wales' Chief Medical Officer, Dr Tony Jewell, have set out plans to get the nation more physically active.

'Creating an Active Wales' sets out the steps the Welsh Assembly Government will take, with partners, to achieve an active, healthy Wales.

The plan focuses on four aims: to develop an environment that makes it easier for people to choose to be more physically active; to support young people to live active lives, and become active adults; to encourage more adults to be more active; and to increase participation in sport.

Alun Ffred Jones said: "The actions in Creating an Active Wales seek to support people who are already physically active and provide encouragement for those who are not."

Dr Tony Jewell, the Chief Medical Officer added: "The health benefits of regular exercise are well-known, and we want people of all ages, right throughout Wales, to become more active."

Can you give Scooby a home?

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone: 01656 725219)

THIS WEEK: Scooby is a cross-breed, 2-5 years old, described by a spokeswoman as a bright and lively boy with a friendly and outgoing nature.

"He is very sweet, affectionate and playful with people. He has been in the centre since February 2009 and needs a home as soon as possible as he is getting quite stressed in the kennel environment.

"He is very under-socialised around other dogs and he will need help to develop his canine social skills, once settled and less stressed in a home.

"He's highly trainable; he just needs to have his energy channelled in the right direction."

SCOOBY.

Type of home needed: He is suitable with children 11 years and over who are used to dogs.

"His new owners will need to be prepared to continue his socialising with other dogs. He'll suit someone who has owned and trained a large dog before", she added

Breast cancer support group

THE voluntary organisation LIFT (Life Is For Today) is a self-help group for those affected by breast cancer which offers support and friendship to people living in the Vale.

The next LIFT group meetings will be in Cowbridge on Wednesday, February 3 between 10am-1pm and Wednesday, February 17 between 2pm-4pm.

New members welcome. Contact Hilary on 01446 749756, or Anne on 01446 772843 for further information.

We welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk***

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The Beech Tree Inn at Culverhouse Cross

A New Beginning…

SNUGLY tucked away right next door to the ITV Wales Television Centre at Culverhouse Cross lies one of the Vale's best kept secrets of recent months.

Since its opening at the beginning of October, The Beech Tree Inn – a stunning 18th Century barn conversion set in an acre of grounds with private parking for 50 cars – has already developed a dedicated following and a reputation for being one of the finest fish and seafood restaurants in the area.

The owner, ex-Barry schoolboy and former racing driver, Anthony Armelin, explains the circumstances surrounding the new project: "I was abroad on holiday at the time when I received a text from one of my former employees saying " Sorry to hear the news about Gilby's". I thought, hang on a second, what news?"

Mr Armelin, who bought the land in 1996, opened the hugely successful Gilby's Restaurant in 1997 and ran it as chef/proprietor for 10 heady years. He said: "I sold Gilby's in June 2007 but, unfortunately, the company I sold it to was unable to survive the recession and, after a classic moonlight flit, went into liquidation leaving me in something of a quandary – empty properties simply don't pay the bills!"

A decision was soon taken with five of his most loyal and trusted staff from the old Gilby's days to open up again as a brand new venture - and they haven't looked back since.

> "The Beech Tree Inn is a great fish restaurant. There's everything, from prawn cocktail and fish and chips to caviar, lobster and dover sole. They even have a fantastic selection of meat, including the very best pedigree Welsh Black steaks."

The restaurant and kitchen have undergone a major refurbishment with a stunning use of mirrors in the dining-room; cream walls, beech tables and soft leather seating help to create a light and airy ambience. The new look is a striking combination of traditional charm and comfort with a chic and modern feel.

Service is friendly and informal, the management making a priority of employing "genuine, happy, smiley faces to train as waiting staff." "We had a lot of fun with that ad" Arlene Mason explained. "We have a young, enthusiastic team that we've trained in-house, ourselves. They're a great bunch and they all genuinely love what they're doing." And it shows.

Restaurant manager Deb King with her front of house management team Teresa Goodwin, Louise McShane and Arlene Mason.

And so to food. Dining at The Beech Tree Inn is very much a sensory experience. From the moment you walk through the door, you are totally seduced by the sights, sounds and smells of a real open kitchen – fiery flambés, lots of whisking and chopping and generous whiffs of garlic and fresh herbs. It's colourful, vibrant and alive! The kitchen, under the guidance of joint head chefs Rob Sharp and Mike Jones, sources the very best produce available from suppliers right across the UK. "We try to cater for every taste, but the emphasis is firmly on buying the freshest produce and cooking it with as little fuss as possible."

Live shellfish arrives in the kitchen daily and, along with lobsters, oysters and mussels there is a superb selection of fresh fish beautifully displayed on crushed ice including dover sole, lemon sole, sea bass, monkfish and hake. Meat lovers will also be pleasantly surprised by a mouth-watering choice of staples, such as calf's liver and bacon, venison, poultry, duck, rack of lamb and the finest pedigree Welsh Black steaks from farms all over Wales. There's even an authentic Italian selection, including pasta and risotto, and a tempting vegetarian option is always available. With soup of the day at £3.75 and main courses starting at £7.95, the menu really must be seen to be believed!

And, of course, you simply daren't leave without sampling one of their classic home-made desserts, such as glazed tarte au citron, a huge fresh fruit pavlova with soft marshmallow meringue, a sensational hot chocolate fondant straight from the oven and their, now famous, exceptional vanilla crème brûlée. All desserts are priced at a very reasonable £4.95.

> "I'm delighted to have Deb King on board as Restaurant Manager. For many years Deb was one half of the highly-acclaimed Woods Bistro in Talbot Green, a gastronomic mecca for foodies everywhere. Between us, we have been fortunate enough to have won almost every award available."
>
> *Anthony Armelin*

Mr Armelin firmly believes consumer confidence in a product is all-important for success and is justifiably proud of the industry recognition that he, and Deb King, have achieved over the years. Some of the awards are: AA Restaurant of the Year for Wales, The Red Book Bistro of the Year, 2 AA Rosettes, entry into the Which? Good Food Guide and the highly coveted Michelin Bib Gourmand Award on numerous occasions.

He said, "I really do think our track record reassures guests that we genuinely care and that we'll always do our very best to provide a fantastic dining experience – each and every time."

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Barry College - Celebrating half a century at the heart of the Vale.

Barry College is celebrating 50 years of its life and work at the heart of the community in the Vale. Each month in the Gem, Barry College will be looking back over the last 50 years – with memories and photographs from past students, staff and local residents. A dedicated website www.barry.ac.uk/50 includes even more. To contribute memories, photographs or register as a past student or staff member, go to the website or contact us
email: 50years@barry.ac.uk or tel: 01446 725015

Nicola Brewster, the daughter of the founding Principal of Barry College, the late Arnold James, recently visited the College to meet with current Principal Paul Halstead. Appointed as Principal in 1959, Arnold James was committed to establishing a successful FE College for Barry and the Vale of Glamorgan. In the first year of his appointment he and the small group of original staff decided upon the curriculum to be taught, recruited staff and students, and even decided on the first logo for the College.

At this time, Nicola, then a young child, recalls staff meetings being held in her front room on Sunday mornings. Nicola recalls the decision on the first College logo "there was much debate about this – it was eventually based on the Blue Peter 'ship', to emphasise Barry as a port town. The College added an extra sail for copy write purposes!" After all the planning, Nicola proudly remembers attending the official opening of the College [pictured below with her father, mother Elvis James and representatives from the Vale].

During his long career with the College until his retirement in 1985, Arnold James, alongside colleagues, notably Vice Principal and close friend John Cooper, saw the College develop significantly. New courses and departments were established. Close partnerships with industry were forged, including regular breakfasts for local employers. Student numbers increased from less than a hundred to a few thousand annually, students coming from South East Wales and across the world via partnerships with countries including Venezuela and Iran. Even the College site grew with a series of extensions and new buildings to accommodate the growth.

During his time as Principal, Arnold James was very well respected. Known to many colleagues as Jim, Arnold James had a firm but very fair approach. He had high standards and a drive to ensure the College and students achieved – an approach that benefited all. Above all he was caring and family orientated and encouraged staff to take the same approach. Nicola recalls her mother teaching at the College, and her, and later on her children, Arnold's grandchildren visiting the College with him. Coincidently, Nicola remembered playing table tennis as a child in the meeting room she met the Principal, which used to be the student common room.

Nicola recalls the solid bronze bust of being made of her father by renowned sculptor Bob Thomas, who also created the statue of Aneurian Bevan in Queen Street, Cardiff. Arnold James was very proud to sit for Bob, who was also a lecturer at the College for many years. The bust still resides in the main reception of the Colcot Road site. The College wish to thank Nicola for taking the time to visit from her home in South West England, during their 50 year anniversary, to share the photographs, documents and her own memories of her fathers time as Principal of Barry College.

The founding Principal of Barry College, Arnold James

Nicola as a child at the official opening of Barry College.

Nicola and Principal, Paul Halstead, recently looked though her photos of when her father, Arnold James, was Principal.

Do you have a special memory or story about Barry College?
Do you have any photographs of Barry College taken over the years?

Whether a past student, member of staff, friend of the College or local resident – we all share in the College's heritage.

All those who contribute photographs or written memories will receive a thank you letter and commemorative gift. The website www.barry.ac.uk/50 also includes details of planned activities and events through the academic year to allow all who wish to participate in celebrations the opportunity to do so.

Barry College will assume the consent of all those who appear in any photographs and written statements contributed relating to the college and its 50th celebrations, for use on the Barry College website, marketing materials and related media coverage. By contributing images/statements, you are agreeing to grant Barry College a royalty free licence to publish, edit and use such materials for the purposes stated above.

Vale carers are praised by AM

Jane Hutt (centre) offers her congratulations to the care workers.

VALE AM Jane Hutt, visited the 'All Care' offices in Holton Road, Barry, to congratulate Ann Hopkins and Emma James on their awards at the Care Wales Awards ceremony, organised by Care Forum Wales.

Jane Hutt AM said: " It was great to meet Ann Hopkins, who won the gold supported living care practitioner award, and Emma James, who won the bronze leadership and management award, to congratulate them on their skills and dedication to caring services in the Vale.

"I was particularly pleased to have the chance to thank the carers for their outstanding care during the poor weather conditions.

"They went out of their way to get to work to care for people, despite the snow."

Local RNLI crews have a busy year

THE latest figures released by the RNLI charity have revealed that, at the eight lifeboat stations between Penarth and Burry Port, the number of people rescued has risen from 245 in 2008 to 311 in 2009.

With the exception of 2006, when the long hot summer led to a stark rise in rescues, 2009 was the second busiest in the west over the last 10 years. Penarth were the second busiest rescuers in Wales, bringing 85 people safely ashore in 2009 – compared with 44 in 2008.

It was also a busy period for RNLI volunteers at Porthcawl where launches increased by nearly 40 per cent, and the number of people rescued rose from 26 in 2008 to 47 in 2009.

The number of lifeboat launches at Port Talbot, Atlantic College and Burry Port also increased, meaning that the RNLI is grateful for donations that can be spent on its services.

Wendy Reason, RNLI fundraising and communications manager in the west says:

"In a year when many families and companies are experiencing hardship, we have been astounded by the response from supporters to our national fundraising day."

To take part in RNLI SOS Day, and for inspiring fundraising ideas, or to simply make a donation, log on to www.rnli.org.uk/sos or call 0845 121 4999.

Rotary members get curried away!

ABOVE: Left to right – Rotarian John Edmounds (owner of St Andrew Golf Club), vice-president Dennis O'Shea, Rotarian David Williams and Mrs Williams.

RECENTLY, the members of Dinas Powys Rotary Club were joined at the St Andrews Major Golf Club by wives and partners for a special curry night.

There were many different curries available from the expert in-house chef, which everyone enjoyed, and a number of members went back for back for seconds and thirds!

Today (Thursday) at the village Parish Hall, the club will be holding its annual inauguration celebration dinner, with special guests and entertainment.

Colin Ll Jones

Pupils welcomed elderly guests

MEMBERS of The Wednesday Hour at Bethel Baptist Church, Llantwit Major, were invited recently by the staff of Llantwit Major Comprehensive School for lunch and a concert given by the pupils.

Twenty-five of us arrived to a very warm welcome by both staff and pupils.

After a delicious lunch of sandwiches and homemade cakes, the pupils entertained us with an excellent concert.

We all went home with an amazing hamper full of 'goodies', the contents of which were collected by the pupils themselves.

Their manners were impeccable and we were very well looked after.

I would like to thank the staff and pupils of the school for their attention to detail and for making us so welcome.

The Wednesday Hour involves a group of people over 60 who meet every Wednesday afternoon between 2pm-3.30pm in the hall of Bethel Baptist Church, for a relaxing afternoon of entertainment.

If anyone would like to join us, please telephone Frances on 01446 794005 for further information.

Francis Adney, Llantwit Major

Vale Dyspraxia Support Group

THE next monthly meeting of the Vale Dyspraxia Support Group will be held on Monday, February 1, in Barry Hospital, Colcot Road, Barry, at 7.30pm.

The group provides support for children with dyspraxia and their families. It is liaising with education authorities and is running a laptop project to support pupils with dyspraxia.

Families (both parents and children) of young people with dyspraxia and related conditions (dyslexia, ADHD, Aspergers) are welcome.

Latest roadworks report

Boverton Road junction with Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major – temporary traffic control. The work is ongoing.

Weston Square tunnel, Cardiff Road, Barry – road closure ongoing.

Pontypridd Street, junction with Mount Pleasant – footway restriction in place ongoing.

Pill Street/Dock Street, Penarth – temporary traffic control.

Broadway, Cowbridge – re-surfacing works with temporary traffic control.

High Street, Cowbridge (outside Nat West Bank) – temporary traffic control.

Cowbridge by-pass viaduct – temporary speed limit.

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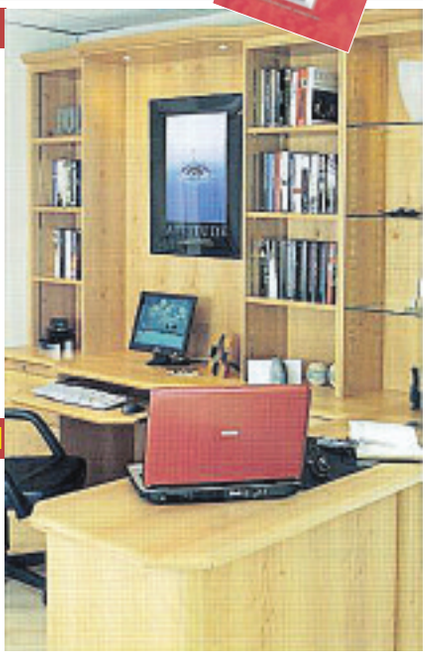

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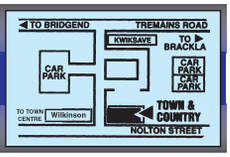

NEWS FROM BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Students study myths around domestic abuse

YEAR-12 students at Barry Comprehensive School focused on a challenging project during their first term of sixth form – domestic abuse.

Students have challenged the myths and stereotypes around issues of domestic abuse, with the aims of breaking the cycle and creating healthier, happier relationships.

A school spokesman said: "There has been a real focus on emotional intelligence and developing a range of strategies for understanding feelings."

The project culminated with the launch of 'Atal y Fro'. The organisation (formerly known as Vale Women's Aid) aims to support families, especially focusing on children.

Students from Barry Comprehensive School were invited to this high profile launch and asked to perform a piece of drama to reflect the citizenship focus at the school.

The students, in a very short period of time, improvised a short play focusing on domestic abuse.

They chose to challenge the stereotype by featuring a male character as the victim of the abuse and the impact of family violence, although the audience only gradually sees this; in this way the drama also challenged our own stereotypes.

Kay Quinn (director), Sarah and Roisin with some of the students and Jennifer Ford, head of sixth form, Karen Walters, head of the creative arts faculty and student teachers Miss Cottam and Mr Morgan.

This piece of drama was accompanied by live music and the overall effect was extremely powerful.

The spokesman said: "Many thanks to Sarah Duddridge and Roisin Davies, members of the Atal y Fro Team, who ran the project over nine weeks for a large group of students.

Staff and students gained a great deal from the workshops.

"We would also like to thank Kay Quinn (director) Sarah and Roisin, for donating two personalised framed photographs to the school.

The group also took the trouble to come to the school, thanking the students for their work and commitment."

School's £1,000 donation for the Welsh Guards

BARRY Comprehensive School recently welcomed Captain Darren Pridmore of the Welsh Guards to meet students who attend the Military Preparation College in Cardiff, and he addressed all year-7 pupils.

The school had raised £1,000 in support of Welsh Guards injured in Afghanistan.

The school were particularly concerned to help Dale Leach, a former student of the school, who was seriously injured by a roadside bomb while travelling in Helman Province.

Captain Pridmore explained his extremely demanding role of supporting soldiers and their families who had been injured while on duty. He promised to pass on the school's best wishes to Dale when he next saw him.

Captain Pridmore with Barry Comprehensive School representatives Ben, Anthony and Elliot.

Vale nursery school wins a special award for understanding disability

A VALE school has been honoured at an annual awards ceremony.

Bute Cottage Nursery in Penarth was singled out in the schools' category of the 16th 'Understanding Disability' awards organised by the Cardiff and Vale Parents' Federation.

The awards celebrate the promotion by individuals, schools, groups/organisations and employers of positive attitudes towards people with learning disabilities.

Bute Cottage was represented at the ceremony by learning support assistant Julie Corbett and former pupil Thomas, and headteacher Ceri Hoffrock, said: "Staff at Bute Cottage Nursery were delighted to receive this recognition of the support and guidance they provide for the children in their care.

"It is very much a tribute to everyone associated with Bute Cottage, including the governing body and the wider community, who work very hard to ensure that children with disabilities thrive in our fully inclusive environment."

Vale Mayor, Coun Emlyn Williams, who presented the award to Julie and Thomas, said: "This annual awards ceremony highlights outstanding efforts to involve people with learning disabilities in everyday life. I was thrilled in my civic role to be able to honour Bute Cottage Nursery."

On behalf of Bute Cottage Nursery School, former pupil Thomas and learning support assistant Julie Corbett receive the Understanding Disability Award from Vale of Glamorgan Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams.

Lecturers battle to awards ceremony

THREE engineering lecturers at Bridgend College and Robert Jones, head of school, engineering, battled through the cold and snow drifts to make their way to the Royal Society in London on January 8 for Innovisions 2010, New Engineering Foundation Awards and Annual Conference 2010.

The event was hosted by Maggie Philbin, radio and television presenter, and David Kidney MP, Minister for Energy and Climate Change.

The New Engineering Foundation is a grant-awarding charity that promotes the development of vocational education in science, engineering and technology.

The Industrial Fellowship Scheme provides bursaries for further education lecturers to spend time in local companies or research organisations in support of their professional development, enhancing classroom learning, and encouraging knowledge transfer within the local business community.

The annual awards ceremony recognises the dedication of both teachers and employers in pursuit of these goals.

Carl Bickle, Mike Donnelly and Tony James have each undertaken a three-week industrial placement that has allowed them to enhance and update skills in modern industrial processes, which can be developed into the learning activities to ensure topics are current and meet the needs of industry.

These new and enhanced skills will also help ensure our training and assessment processes provide students with the skills needed to succeed.

Carl Bickle has been working at Corus Strip Products in Port Talbot, which will allow us to develop new apprenticeship routes to fulfil future plant requirements in Process Control and High Voltage systems.

Mike Donnelly has spent three weeks in RWE npower's Aberthaw Power Station, enabling us to meet the needs of the energy sector.

Tony James has enjoyed three weeks in the Ford Engine Plant in Bridgend to gain a working knowledge of new engine manufacturing processes at this advanced manufacturing facility.

All agreed that the industrial placement scheme has enhanced and updated their skills, and provided an excellent working knowledge of these employers.

RWE npower apprentices work on live Process Flow Control System that they built in just three weeks at Bridgend College – left to right: David Brooks, Samuel James, Justin Miles.

Vale housing support box goes to AM

Rene Gannon, vice-chairperson, Jane Hutt AM and Winnie Davies, executive member.

RENE GANNON, the vice-chairperson of the Vale Older People's Strategy Forum, and Winnie Davies (executive member) recently met the Vale AM, Jane Hutt, to hand over the New Year box containing leaflets and letters on behalf of people using housing support.

Winnie Davies told The GEM: "We delivered the box from Cymorth Cymru; this is a good way to keep our AM informed."

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Our extra-curricular programme is impressive with pupils participating in Make Your Mark Challenge, Young Enterprise, Chemistry Olympiad, and Duke Of Edinburgh – this year we have 12 pupils working towards their Gold Award.

Scholarship opportunities at St Clare's School

A limited number of scholarship places will be available for entry into the academic year commencing September 2010. Awards are offered in academic and non - academic subjects, providing bright and talented children the opportunity to join a school that will challenge them and encourage them to reach their full potential.

If education matters to you, and you feel that your child could benefit from a setting which offers small class sizes and where the range of subjects on offer will support your child's own aspirations, then contact us for an information pack, or visit our website.

www.stclares-school.co.uk

NEWS FROM 372 (BARRY) SQUADRON

LOCAL AIR CADETS LINE UP FOR ANNUAL FORMAL INSPECTION

The squadron band.

ABOVE: 372 Squadron.

LEFT: Flt Lt Jason Horton and Flt Lt Dave Crandon.

BELOW: Megan Palmer-Wood.

RECENTLY, Air Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron stood proudly on parade to entertain guests and parents at the annual formal inspection (AFI).

The AFI is a parade performed by the Cadets after weeks of intense preparation. The AFI started with a parade, where the Cadets were also inspected by Flight Lieutenant Dave Crandon (former commanding officer), who then took the salute when the Cadets proudly marched past.

After the formal parade, the squadron band performed their award-winning band routine, which has made the squadron one of the premier bands in the entire Air Training Corps.

To finish off, 12 Cadets carried out a continuity drill routine (with no drill orders), showcasing theIR high drill standards.

Afterwards, the parents and guests were invited into the squadron headquarters to see the facilities, meet the instructor team and to see a slide show of the varied squadron activities Cadets have experienced during the last year.

The parade was also the opportunity to thank Flight Lieutenant Dave Crandon for 10 years as commanding officer, and he was presented with an engraved squadron tankard.

Flight Lieutenant Jason Horton said: "We wanted to send off Dave Crandon 'DC' in style to thank him for his years of dedicated service to the Air Cadets of Barry. He has led this squadron with enthusiasm and good humour. There are many Air Cadets in Barry over the last 10 years, who benefited from the good work of DC."

The Air Cadets also undertake exciting activities outside of ceremonial parades, including flying, gliding, adventure training, shooting, sport, field craft, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, expeditions and overseas visits.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13-18 years old. The squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall). Contact the squadron on 01446 747734, or email 372@aircadets.org for more information.

JH

Latest angling news from Seaview Lads

IT was another successful year in 2009 for Seaview lads Angling Club, now in its umpteenth year (on the Peterson scale)!

Some fine fish were landed and top places were fiercely contested, with Richard Lougher taking the honours, as well as many of the individual awards, a worthy holder of the shore angler of the year award.

Angler of the year was Mike Langford (again) surely one of the club's most consistent and committed anglers.

Special thanks must go to our shore secretary, Paul Coles, for his unstinting efforts in arranging the matches and Paul Crook for recording results.

The midweek (Friday) evening league has proved very popular and Coles was a worthy winner, while Crook narrowly missed out on a treble of memorial trophies.

Overall shore results: **1** Lougher R; **2** Langford M; **3** Harris A; **4** Coles P; **5** Collins E; **6** Wyatt J; **7** Morgan G; **8** Velda J; **9** Kerslake M; **10** Harris R.

Angler of the year: M Langford; Shore Angler of the year: R Lougher; Shore angler runner-up: M Langford; Junior shore angler: A Jones; Junior shore runner-up: D Roderick; Mid-week shore winner: P Coles; mid-week shore runner-up: J Wyatt; Shore doubles winners: A Harris/M Kerslake; Shore doubles runners-up: R Lougher/K Gardner; Specimen hunter shore: R Lougher; Best specimen shore: R Lougher; Heaviest fish shore: R Lougher; Heavy weight shore: R Lougher: Heaviest one day shore: C Mcinnery: Most species shore: R Lougher.

Specimen trophies – Bass: M Langford; Cod: A Harris; Flat fish: R Lougher; Smoothound: R Lougher; Mullet: E Collins; Pouting: R Harris; Ray: R Lougher.

Memorial trophies – Bert Peterson: P Crook; Eddie Frost: P Crook; Wyndham Page: E Collins. **AP**

Valeways winter walks

SUNDAY, January 21, at 2pm, Porthkerry Circular starting from the first car park at the bottom of hill into Porthkerry Park, Barry.

On Tuesday, February 2, at 1.30pm, St Fagans Gardens and Open Air Museum, starting at St Fagans main entrance steps. Car park fee.

On Sunday, February 7, at 2pm, walk to Cardiff Bay, starting at Barrage car park, parking charge applies.

Cottrell Park ladies reflect on past year

THE ladies of Cottrell Park Golf Club met on Saturday, January 15, for the ladies general meeting, which is the annual review and final meeting of the present committee – it had been postponed previously due to snow.

Jenny Knott, Anne Birt and Margaret James with Margaret Thomas, ladies' captain.

The meeting was well attended with 50 members present.

It was opened by the ladies' captain Margaret Thomas. Firstly, there was confirmation of Vicki Long, handicap secretary, Chris John, treasurer, and Judy James, members' representative, remaining in post for a further year.

The new officers were confirmed as Mary Watkins, competition secretary, Carol Bunyan, ladies secretary and Margaret Rees, members' representative.

Annual reports were then given by the treasurer, handicap secretary and retiring competition secretary Jenny McGlyne.

Margaret Thomas reported on her year as captain, which was very enjoyable with many successful golfing and social activities.

She thanked everyone who had supported her throughout the year and especially her vice-captain Lorraine Pointon-Bell.

She was unlucky with the weather, especially the 'Open week' and Captain's Day which were disappointing, but overall it was a good year.

She then presented bouquets of yellow and white tulips to the retiring officers, Jenny Knott (ladies secretary) Margaret James (members representative) and Anne Birt (immediate past captain).

Anne Birt then gave the vote of thanks to Margaret Thomas.

CB

GO-AHEAD GIVEN FOR DRAMATIC CHANGES AT THE CARDIFF AIRPORT

A SERIES of investment decisions, planned despite the economic downturn, are to go ahead at Cardiff Airport.

The airport at Rhoose has plans to upgrade its terminal building, and work is intended to start late this year.

There will also be work on a new radar system.

The development will include an extension to the front of the terminal, linking the arrivals and departures halls into one large common area, providing new food and retail services.

As part of the work, the first floor of the terminal will become 'airside' as the security control point to access the departures lounge is relocated to the first floor, above the existing arrivals hall and accessed through the new extension.

The approach area in front of the terminal building will also be redesigned and landscaped.

The changes are in line with more stringent security regulations.

Cardiff Airport's managing director, Patrick Duffy, said: "Our intention is to enhance and expand the airport terminal, and present a modern statement for the region and increase our commercial activities.

"However, we are seeking to do this during a time where recession has hit air traffic hard, challenging any business case for investing in airport development.

"We are demonstrating our commitment at Cardiff Airport, despite market conditions, and we call on others – particularly the Welsh Assembly Government, to now do their bit.

"The Welsh public need to realise that this development of the terminal itself does not actually increase the demand for airlines operating in south Wales.

"It does not create new routes and it does not create new tourism. These issues have to be tackled as part of a regional plan.

"Cardiff Airport has suggested solutions to some of these issues and trusts that government agencies will make their contribution as other regions of the UK have done so for many years".

Conservative AM Andrew RT Davies put the investment at £15 million, with £5million allocated specifically to the terminal redesign plans.

He said: "I welcome and support the new investment into Cardiff Airport's terminal building and I am excited to hear that there will be new facilities at the terminal.

"I am sure this news will be welcomed across the Vale.

"However, the Welsh Assembly Government now needs to develop a strong working relationship with Cardiff Airport to establish new routes.

"I am disappointed to see that the Assembly continues to waste money on its Cardiff – Anglesey route, which limits the funding available to promote transatlantic routes from Cardiff."

Cardiff Airport has also been working on a project to erect a new air traffic control radar tower for the past 18 months.

The new, state-of-the-art equipment is being repositioned, in order to comply more fully with the Civil Aviation Authority's requirements.

Following a consultation on different sites at the airfield, the new radar will be erected on the south side, adjacent to the fire training ground.

Ground level works have been under way for several weeks, and a crane should now be on site to erect the 20-metre tower.

The work should be completed by tomorrow (Friday) weather permitting.

The next step of the project will be to add the radar head on top of the tower, which will happen over the next few weeks.

The new system will be turning from May or June, in order for it to be tested.

The project will be completed by July when the new radar will be fully operational.

An airport spokeswoman said: "Cardiff Airport would like to invite members of the public to the next airport consultative committee meeting, to discuss any issues or concerns you may have regarding the new project.

The meeting will be held at the airport on Monday, February 15 at 6pm, (visit www.tbicardiffairport.com for more information).

LEFT: An upgrade will change the face of Cardiff Airport.

ABOVE: The concourse leading to the retail units.
BELOW: An artist's impression looking across to the restaurant.

BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS UPDATE

THE latest results from Barrivale are as follows:

Tuesday, January 19.

In first place were Kay Dyer and Noelle Bond with 63.89 per cent.

In second were Huw Thomas and Celia Thomas (57.64), and in third were Dave Thomas and Tom Kendrick, with 56.25.

Kay and Noelle also won on handicap

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information telephone 01446 733425.

NEWS FROM THE PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

'Proper snow' did not deter walkers

Break time at Tinkinswood

THE recent inclement weather has played havoc with planned walks and many had to be cancelled at short notice, which means many of the group's regular walkers are beginning to suffer with enforced cabin fever.

However, recently leader Rachel was joined by an all-female group in the shape of Marion, Liz, Lorraine and Sue, who were all kitted up in warm clothing and eager to get started.

Leaving the community hall at the rear of Tesco's on Port Road, they made their way through the estate to join the Highlight Trail, which passes through part of Brynhill Golf Club.

The narrow path that goes down through the wood was tricky in places and very slippery, but having ventured across the footbridge over the stream and into their first field, the adventure began.

Because the ground was covered in what we class as 'proper snow'– Rachel had planned a game of take-it-in-turns-to-put-your-footprint-in-the-snow, but what she had forgotten was that for three days previously to her walk, the schools had been closed.

Where there is snow, there are usually youngsters out enjoying it and the group found upon their journey that there wasn't one field that hadn't been trodden upon – still better luck next time!

The Highlight Trail is also part of Valeways Millennium Heritage Trail that was opened in 2001, and the group followed this down through Dyffryn to make their way behind Dyffryn Gardens to the Long Cairn at Tinkinswood.

With bracing air and clear blue skies, the countryside, still covered in a coat of white snow, was looking breathtakingly beautiful and all agreed they were glad to be out enjoying the winter sunshine and having fun.

Tinkinswood was once a village, but all that marks the spot now is the Megalithic burial chamber built in 4,000BC.

Originally covered in a mound of soil, it measures 3.5-ft high, 300-ft long and 57-ft wide and is under the care of CADW.

The capstone supported by upright stones is thought to weigh 40-tons and would have taken at least 200 people to move it.

In 1914, when the chamber was excavated, 920 pieces of human bone (mostly all broken) were discovered, meaning that at least 40 people of both sexes had been buried there.

The boulders on the south side are said in folklore to be women turned to stone for dancing upon the Sabbath.

Tearing themselves away, they joined the road and walked south, passing Dyffryn Gardens where the leader had hoped to stop for coffee and cake, but thwarted because it was closed, due to the snow, and they carried on towards St Lythans.

Their return was made by way of New Wallace Farm and crossing the Brynhill valley, they went uphill to Little Brynhill Farm and emerged onto Port Road.

Here, they found the pavements still covered in compacted snow and ice which made them rather treacherous, but undaunted, they powered their way back past the fire station to their waiting cars for the journey home.

On January 30, meet at 9.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a six to seven mile moderate walk from the Brecon Mountain Centre. Contact Val H. on 029 2051 3274.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks.

Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walks, log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB NEWS

The (AGM) show must go on!

ANIMALS know when to curl up and avoid the worse wintry conditions. On the other hand, about a dozen hardy souls braved the driving snow to attend the Annual General Meeting recently.

It couldn't have been the prospect of a closely fought election either!

So, in my postion of chairman I welcomed them warmly and after allowing a couple of minutes grace for any stragglers (none!) got on with the business of the meeting.

The minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated and were unanimously approved without amendment and no matters arising.

As there was no secretary, I gave a brief review of the last year. It was noted that attendance at meetings had increased and that no changes to the programme of talks had been required.

The Club Open Evening, as part of the Penarth Festival in July, had seen many more visitors from the public than before – including the Mayor.

I thanked the committee for their support, and noted special thanks for Jean Thomas and Ron Price who were standing down from the committee this year.

To be successful, any club needs the active participation by its members in all manner of small tasks.

Such helpfulness contributes toward the club's reputation as 'The Friendly Club'.

The treasurer's audited report for the year ended August 31, 2009 was also submitted.

The balance sheet indicated a healthy cash reserve and no increase in membership fee was necessary.

The meeting was advised that the hall rental had increased to acknowledge a much improved storage facility.

Nevertheless, there would be no increase in the annual membership fee and no increase in the meeting fees.

The report was adopted unanimously.

The committee now consists of:

Chairman: Howard Desmond; vice- chairman: Steve Viney; treasurer: *vacant*; secretary: *vacant*; auditor: Mrs Sue Seymour. Committee members: Mrs Rhona Boudier, Mike Finlay, Mike Jakob, Mrs. Eileen Younghusband.

I will continue to act as secretary and the committee will deal with the tasks required of the treasurer, if no volunteer is forthcoming.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed and everybody rapidly retreated to their respective firesides!

Visitors and new members always welcome.

For more information telephone 029 20708439.

Howard Desmond, chairman

Glamorgan GEM Food for Thought

AT YOUR SERVICE!

Coffee Zone makes a welcome entrance

THE Business Centre in Barry has announced the opening of an in-house café called The Coffee Zone.

The centre has made this new investment to provide an additional much-needed service for its clients.

However, it is already drawing in members of the public and other people from the Ty Verlon Estate, who are delighted to have somewhere providing food and hot drinks locally.

The Coffee Zone is being run by Dawn Lee and her daughter Paige. Dawn has more than 20 years' experience in the catering trade and is "very excited" to be providing the new service.

Coffee Zone is open from 8.30am-3.30pm Monday-Friday.

Contact Dawn on 01446 704428 for further details, or to place an order.

ABOVE: Dawn and Paige are ready to take your orders at The Coffee Zone!

Rotary's star young chefs in battle for the big prize!

RIGHT: Rotary clubs do their bit to promote excellence, and a popular example is the 'Young Chef' competition. Barry Rotary staged their competition recently, and it was won by Jordan Clarke (far right) with Sophie Thomas the runner-up. (See next week's GEM for a report).

Tiffin Rasoi's Haiti evening

A CHARITY night in aid of the Haiti earthquake victims is being held at Tiffin Rasoi this Sunday, January 31 from 5pm-11pm.

Tiffin Rasoi will donate 50 per cent of its proceeds to the Haiti appeal.

Tiffin Rasoi, 37 Holton Road, Barry, telephone 01446 743030/721100; www.tiffinrasoi.com

Healthy eating —Italian style!

LIGHT, tasty and using olive oil to its best advantage – that's the Italian way to healthy eating.

Now, olive oil specialist Filippo Berio, has put together some great Mediterranean dishes to put you on the right track!

Toasted mozzarella and tomato sandwich

Preparation time: 10 minutes, cooking time: 5-10 minutes (serves 2).

Two tomatoes sliced; four tbsp Filippo Berio Extra Virgin Olive oil; 1 tsp balsamic vinegar; a few shredded basil leaves; salt and freshly ground black pepper; four thick slices of bread; one clove garlic halved; 150g mozzarella cheese, sliced;

Step one: Place the tomatoes on a plate, sprinkle over 2 tbsp of the oil, the vinegar and basil. Season well and set aside.

Step two: Rub the garlic all over the slices of bread, then drizzle half the remaining oil over one side of the bread slices. Cook on a preheated griddle pan for 2 minutes or until toasted.

Step three: Place toasted side up on a board and top two slices with the tomatoes and sliced mozzarella. Place the remaining bread, toasted side down on the filling. Drizzle half the oil over and cook on the griddle for 2 minutes until toasted.

Step four: Drizzle the remaining oil on the untoasted side, turn over and cook for a further 2 minutes until the bread is golden brown and the cheese beginning to melt. Serve immediately.

Pan fried pork with Tuscan beans

Preparation time: 15 minutes (serves four). Cooking time: 1 hour

5 tbsp Filippo Berio Olive oil; 4 pork loin steaks, approx 150g (5oz) ea; 3 shallots, peeled and finely chopped; 1/2 red pepper, deseeded and finely chopped; 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped; 2 x 410g cans cannellini beans, drained; 150ml (1/4 pt) dry white wine; 300ml (1/2 pt) chicken or vegetable stock; 4 or 5 sage leaves, chopped;

Step one: Heat 2 tbsps of the olive oil in a large frying pan over medium/high heat, add the pork loin steaks and cook for about 12 minutes until deep golden brown on both sides, prop the loin steaks on the side of the pan so the edges brown during next step.

Step two: Add another tablespoon of oil to the pan and then the shallots, red pepper and garlic and cook over a medium heat for about five minutes until softened. Pour in the wine and bring to the boil.

Step three: Add the cannellini beans, stock and sage, place the pork chops among the beans, cover and simmer for 15-20 minutes. Remove the lid and simmer a further 15 minutes or until the stock has become syrupy and the chops are tender.

Step four: Remove the lid; add the remaining olive oil. Season if desired and serve.

Finnegans runner-up in top UK-wide competition

Local chip shop hits the heights!

A LOCAL chippie is celebrating hitting the heights – after winning second prize in a national competition to find the best fish and chip shop in the UK.

Finnegans's Fish Bar was crowned the second best fish and chip shop in the UK at the national 'Fish & Chip Shop of the Year' competition 2009/2010, organised by Seafish.

The owners, Huw and Sarah Jones, were presented with the award, by TV chef Aldo Zilli, at a ceremony in the Riverbank Park Plaza Hotel in London last week.

Huw and Sarah have three branches, one in Broadlands, Bridgend, one in Porthcawl, and another in Port Talbot.

The Porthcawl branch claims Ruth Jones of *Gavin and Stacey* as a regular visitor, and Michael Sheen has also popped in!

Huw and Sarah were awarded second place after a rigorous judging process, which included a customer vote, taste tests, two intense rounds of shop inspections and a presentation to a panel of industry experts.

Shops are strictly judged not only on the quality of their fish and chips, but on all areas of the business including responsible seafood sourcing, customer service, food hygiene, staff training and community spirit.

Huw said: "We are over the moon to win the second spot. There are not many shops in Wales that can say they serve some of the best fish and chips in the UK.

"We'll keep improving the standards of our shop and, hopefully, we'll be back here next year to walk away with the top trophy.

"I'd like to say a big thank you to my staff and loyal customers who helped us reach this stage of the competition."

The winner was a Scottish-Italian fish restaurant, Atlantic Fast Food in Coatbridge, Glasgow, with the Great British Eatery in Birmingham coming in third place.

Aldo Zilli, compere of the competition and seafood restaurateur, said: "The high standards of our fish and chip shops rival the top restaurants in the country.

"The best shop owners work hard to deliver outstanding quality by using the finest ingredients and a responsible attitude to the sourcing of fish."

Nikki Hawkins, the competition project manager, said: "Despite the credit crunch, people still want to enjoy small luxuries.

"In fact, 183 million portions of fish and chips were sold last year alone. A national institution, fish and chips has survived the test of time and will be around for many years to come."

The national 'Fish & Chip Shop of the Year' competition has been run by Seafish for 22 years.

A Seafish spokeswoman said: "In that time, fish and chip shops have changed dramatically, with many now offering different varieties of fish such as pollack, coley, and hake.

"Modern frying methods and state of the art frying ranges also mean that fish and chips is one of the healthiest takeaway meals containing less salt, a third less calories and more than 40 per cent less fat than other takeaways."

Restaurants unite for Haiti appeal

A NUMBER of Vale restaurants made their contribution to the Haiti appeal last night (Wednesday) by donating 50 per cent of the evening's takings to the cause..

The GEM understands that the fundraising idea may be extended, and restaurants that do so will be displaying the Haiti Earthquake (Islamic Relief) poster.

Finnegans
Award Winning Fish & Chips
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Out and About with The GEM

Music in the Vale proves a stepping stone to stardom!

RECENTLY, Music in the Vale found itself represented both in the Gordon Theatre and on the Glanfa stage at the Wales Millennium Centre.

Leigh Rhiannon Coggins, a runner-up in the 2007 singing competition, was performing in the musical *Les Miserables* in the Gordon Theatre, and is also understudying *Cosette*.

Just prior to the matinee performance, Music in the Vale provided a full one-hour free concert to a very large and appreciative audience in the Glanfa foyer.

The finalists of Music in the Vale's 2009 annual competition enjoyed this first opportunity to perform to a large, enthusiastic audience.

These young musicians, with either classic, folk or music theatre pieces, all amazed the audience with their high standards of performance.

Music in the Vale is providing two similar opportunities for their finalists – Saturday, April 24 (1.15pm-2.15pm) and Sunday, June 27 (1pm-2pm).

For more information about Music in the Vale, visit the website musicinthevale.org.uk or telephone the secretary on 01446 771318.

Forum's new website

The Vale Older People's Strategy Forum has launched a new website.

The forum has a membership of more than 600 people aged 50+ that either live or work in the Vale, and the new website covers many areas of interest, including housing, transport, health, and age discrimination.

Jane Weldon, the website administrator, said: "There are many articles and helpful links, including how to find out if you are entitled to cold weather payments. Go to our website at www.vale-opf.org.uk"

Comedian really suffers for his art!

AWARD-WINNING comedian Rhod Gilbert paid a special visit to the Vale Council's visible services department recently, as part of his new series for BBC One Wales – *Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience* – which sees him step well and truly out of his comfort zone.

Over the course of his visit, Rhod took on jobs with the council's refuse team, spent the day at the civic amenity site and patrolled with the enforcement team, to find out just how difficult an average day can be.

At first, Rhod was tasked with becoming a bin man, meaning very early starts, lots of walking and having to face some rather unpleasant sights and smells along the way – something that Rhod admits he wasn't exactly relishing the thought of.

Things didn't get off to a great start, though, as Rhod turned up late for his first shift!

Older People's Forum hosts information day

A MORNING of refreshments, information and discussion is planned for Thursday, February 25, when the Vale Older People's Strategy Forum hosts an information and coffee morning in Barry.

The event will be held at Barry Library, King Square, between 10am-12pm and will provide an opportunity for the forum to recruit new members and provide guests with information on health and wellbeing.

There will be information stands offering advice on different topics such as Age Concern/Help the Aged welfare rights, advocacy and good neighbourhood scheme, TeleV personal security systems, Health through Warmth and much more.

Representatives from the forum will also be on hand to talk about work achieved so far.

The forum welcomes new members so long as they are aged over 50 and live or work in the Vale.

For further information, contact Nisha Shukla, participation and involvement officer, on 01446 704857 or email nshukla@vale-ofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Councillor's plea for more allotment space

LOCAL councillor, Rob Curtis, has requested a report for the economy and environment scrutiny committee on how the Vale Council can supply more allotment space to meet public demand and help protect the environment.

He explained: "Owning and tending an allotment can have many benefits, including exercise, good wholesome healthy food and also help protect our environment in the process.

"The waiting list for allotments in the Vale has increased massively over the past couple of years.

"I believe the Vale Council should be doing its upmost to create new allotment space."

PACT meetings

CASTLELAND PACT public meeting will be held at The Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry on Monday, February 8, at 7pm.

BUTTRILLS PACT, The Phillip John Community Room, Barry Library, King Square, Wednesday, February 10, at 6.30pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT, The Community First Office, Aberaeron Close, Barry, Tuesday, February 16, at 2pm.

ST BRIDES MAJOR PACT, St Brides Major Church Hall on Wednesday, February 3, at 6pm.

YSTRADOWEN Coffee & Chat, at The White Lion on Tuesday, February 9, at 11.30am.

RHOOSE PACT, Celtic Way Community Centre on Tuesday, February 16, at 7pm.

LLANDOW/ EWENNY PACT, Ewenny Village Hall on Wednesday, February 17, at 7pm.

ST HILARY Coffee & Chat meeting, St Hilary Village Hall on Friday, February 19, at 11am.

SULLY PACT, the Jubilee Hall on Thursday, February 11, at 8pm.

Barry chef rejoins Welsh culinary team

BARRY chef Lee Jeynes is a key member of the Welsh National Culinary Team, as they prepare to compete on home soil, before flying to take on the best in the world in Asia this spring.

Lee Jeynes returns to the Welsh team for the Singapore competition.

The team has been invited to compete for the first time at the FHA Culinary Challenge in Singapore, hailed as Asia's most established culinary competition, from April 15-25.

Lee, originally from Barry, emigrated to live in Australia last year and is looking forward to meeting up again with his former team-mates.

The Welsh team warms up for the Singapore event by competing on home soil against Celtic cousins Scotland and Ireland in the Battle for the Dragon contest during the Welsh International Culinary championships at Coleg Llandrilo Cymru, Rhos-on-Sea from February 16-18.

HAITI APPEAL

A BRING & Buy sale is being held in Llandow Village Hall on Saturday, January 30, between 10am-2pm in aid of the Haiti earthquake appeal.

Helpers needed; telephone 01656 890737/890513/890532.

TABLE TOP

A TABLE top sale will be held in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, on Saturday, February 6 from 10am-12.30pm.

New and unused goods and bric-a-brac; entry 50p. Proceeds in aid of the restoration fund.

Tory AM's surgery

DAVID MELDING, the Conservative Assembly Member for South Wales Central region, will be holding an advice surgery tomorrow (Friday, January 29) at 29, High Street, Barry, between 10am-11.30am.

No appointments are necessary and all are welcome to attend.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

For September 2010, state of the art facilities in all curriculum areas, including: Music, Drama, Design Technology, ICT and Science

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

An open evening for students considering taking their AS/A2 Level studies will be held in the Sixth Form on

Thursday, 4th February

between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm

Andrew RT Davies AM

Welsh Conservative Assembly Member for South Wales Central

If you would like to attend an advice surgery, please contact:

Tel: 02920 898523
Office: 29 High Street, Barry, CF62 9EA.

Next surgery: Friday 5th February, 10.30-11.30am

Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives

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Vale of Glamorgan Council

Building Excellence Awards 2010

LABC CYMRU

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

BUILDERS and developers who use the building regulation service in the Vale will be attending the 'Building Awards' dinner organised through the Building Control Group of the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

For the seventh year in succession, it will be held at the Best Western Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry on January 29.

Nominations for the awards are provided by the council's building control surveyors, who are responsible for the supervision of the projects as they progress on site, through to the completion of building work.

Colin Blick, Operational Manager for the Building Control Group at the Vale of Glamorgan Council, said: "This is the seventh successive year of the 'Building Awards', and we have great pleasure in providing recognition to builders and developers who are determined to provide a high quality customer-orientated service.

"Building regulations now play a big part whenever we decide to make alterations, extend or construct new buildings. With recent changes to the planning process and the devolvement of the building regulations to the Welsh Assembly, reducing carbon emissions will be at the forefront of the legislation changes we will see in the coming years.

"Everyone has a part to play in conserving energy and reducing carbon emissions, as it impacts on us all, from householder to major developer. Changing the way we construct buildings to make them more sustainable will be a big ask for our developers.

"Ensuring that buildings are constructed in accordance with current building regulations requires a high standard of workmanship, and the builders nominated this year have proven that they can meet this requirement.

"The 'Building Awards' demonstrate the many high quality construction projects undertaken within the Vale of Glamorgan.

"Builders and developers are rarely recognised, and the awards have proved over the years that they are very gratefully received."

The Building Control Group is situated within the Planning and Transportation Division of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, and its Head of Service Rob Thomas stated: "Development of any size increasingly has a major impact on the day to day lives of people who are undertaking building projects.

"Ultimately, it is the builder who has the major responsibility in satisfying not only the customer's needs, but also statutory bodies. The Building Awards will help assist the builder and developer meet these needs, as well as giving them well-deserved recognition for consistently carrying out work of a high standard".

Winners of the Vale of Glamorgan event will go forward to the LABC South Wales 'Building Awards' dinner, held at the Mecure Holland House Hotel, Cardiff on March 12, which will be hosted by television personality Jason Mohammed.

The ultimate achievement can be recognised at national level. The winners of the South Wales event will be nominated into the LABC National 'Building Awards', which will include nominations from most of the local authorities throughout Wales and England, in London next October.

This year's award categories are: Extensions and Alterations • New Single Dwellings • Multiple Dwellings • Social Affordable Housing • Commercial Property

The Vale of Glamorgan Building Control Awards are kindly sponsored by

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The Vale of Glamorgan Council Building Excellence Awards 2010

Category 1 - Nomination for Extensions & Alterations

The Old Vicarage, Pendoylan

Applicant: **Mr. G. Davies**

Contractor: **Martin Jones**

This extension to a substantial detached dwelling comprises a covered courtyard entrance, a large garage and fitness suite on ground level with a self-contained granny annexe at first floor level.

The topography of the site required significant ground-works and the construction of a large mass concrete block retaining wall for the garage element to be built into the adjacent ground. The garage opens up into the large terraced courtyard with an open air swimming pool.

The fitness suite also benefits from open access to the courtyard, whilst the granny annexe, situated above the garage area, is accessed from the rear garden level, and provides unobstructed views over the surrounding countryside.

The design of the fitness suite incorporates an oak framed roof construction which was replicated in the covered courtyard entrance. The attention to detail was reflected in all other areas of construction and finishes, and has resulted in a superb extension well worthy of nomination.

The contractor maintained regular contact with the Building Control Department to ensure all relevant elements of work were inspected prior to covering over.

Martyn Watts-Jones
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Phone **01446 775240**
Mobile **07702 150138**

Ty Cwar, Penylan Rd, St Brides Major

Applicant: **Mr. & Mrs. Dalton**

Agent: **Barry Mayled**

Contractor: **Gwyn G. Jones & Sons Ltd**

The project consisted of a two storey extension and a first floor extension including new dormer roof extensions, built in traditional construction to match existing elevations, incorporating high levels of thermal and acoustic insulation.

The roof construction is sympathetic to the character and enhancement of the existing building.

The first floor living room was extended to include a balcony, which affords superb views over open countryside.

The first floor extension has two further bedrooms with an adjacent bathroom.

The work involved significant steelwork design/alterations. The building works were exceptionally well managed with excellent quality control regarding construction and Health and Safety procedures.

The excellent standards of design, workmanship, including finishes, make this a quality family home.

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Coach House, Pentre Meyrick,
Cowbridge, South Glamorgan CF71 7RN

Penylan House, Aberthin

Applicant: **Mr. R. Wood**

Agent: **Mr. Gwyn Davies**

Contractor: **Mr. Ron Stockwell**

This project involved the construction of a single storey rear elevation extension to an existing dwelling, providing a large kitchen/dining area with a balcony roof.

As the extension was built into a steep bank, large quantities of excavated material were removed and this being a confined site, the contractor worked sympathetically with the neighbours, ensuring minimum disruption.

Reinforced concrete foundations and retaining wall construction were provided, including tanking as a barrier against ingress of moisture to the inside of the building.

Land drainage was also provided externally to the perimeter/retaining wall construction, so as to relieve any possible build-up of water pressure.

The construction involved the use of proprietary shuttering and careful fixing and setting up of the steel reinforcement.

The roof of the extension provides a balcony area which has been tastefully paved over and affords splendid views over a mature garden. The extension matches the existing house, enhancing the appearance, coupled with high standards of workmanship.

Due to the limited access to the site, the concrete was pumped from the adjacent access/driveway with minimum disruption to neighbours, by applying Health & Safety site management.

10 Cornerswell Place, Penarth

Applicant: **Mr. John Page**

Contractor: **T. W. Boagey**

The works comprise a single-storey ground floor extension, with part mono pitch and part lean-to roof. In the front section, the extension provides a breakfast room with vaulted ceiling, adjacent to the kitchen. The breakfast room has good daylight provision from a roof light and front glazed screen.

Steel beams, with fire protection, were inserted to structural engineer's design in a new opening between the existing kitchen and the new breakfast room. The rear section of the extension incorporates a very practical hobby room opening out onto the garden.

Submitted as a Building Notice, this project was executed by a very experienced father and son building team. The rainwater was dealt with by the inclusion of a modern 'crate' soakaway system, due to the limited permeability of the ground.

The builder, applicant and Building Control officer worked in close consultation throughout the project, which exemplifies the ethos of working in partnership.

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Category 1 - Nomination for Extensions & Alterations

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Applicant/Agent: **Keith J. Evans**

Contractor: **Toutt Builders**

The scheme involved the complete renovation of the property, including the taking down and rebuilding of principle load bearing walls and floors in the existing structure, which were found to be defective during construction.

The completed property, which was designed by the owner/architect, involved the construction of a new two storey extension incorporating an integral garage with bedroom over, and the construction of a new kitchen, utility room and conservatory.

Certain aspects of the work were difficult, due to the defective existing structure. The Building contractor overcame the difficulties and achieved a building which displays high standards of workmanship, complemented by the internal fittings and fixtures.

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Category 2 - Nomination for New Single Dwellings

Former Vale Garage, St Mary Church

Applicant: **Mr. Len Richards, Vivard Ltd., Llantwit Major**

Contractor: **Steve Lee Builders, Llantwit Major**

The location of the dwelling, is in a rural setting, on the site of former garage premises. The builder therefore had to undertakeremedial ground works prior to construction commencing.

The construction incorporates many architectural features and is complemented by a builder who is meticulous with regard to craftsmanship and detail.

The dwelling comprises a ground floor conservatory, four bedrooms, two with ensuite bathrooms and one family bathroom.

All fittings fixtures and decoration are to a high standard and of a tasteful design.

The dwelling also includes a detached double garage.

The dwelling is of a traditional construction embracing high levels of insulation, built to meet today's high thermal insulation standards. The energy assessment and air test confirmed that this house had higher results than any other previously checked.

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10 Clive Place, Penarth

Applicant/
Contractor: **Goldsworthy Homes Ltd**

This new dwelling is set at the end of an established terrace of dwellings within the Penarth Conservation Area. As such, its design was given considerable consideration and scrutiny, to ensure it blended in with surrounding buildings.

The three-storey property provides accommodation of five bedrooms, en-suite and family bathrooms, living room and large kitchen/dining room. Its timber framed construction with substantial insulation levels produced an energy efficient building, without resorting to costly energy saving methods, such as solar panels or photo-voltaic cells.

The external finishes of coursed stonework with brickwork banding, natural slate roof, and sliding sash windows have achieved an appearance well suited to its location. The high standard of finish and workmanship was evident throughout the build process.

A good working relationship between builder and the Building Control Section was also maintained during the contract period so that only a few minor issues had to be resolved at the completion stage.

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Category 3 - Nomination for Multiple Dwellings

Former Grammar School, Church Street, Cowbridge

Applicant/Developer: **Mr D.M. Mathias, Centre Great Limited**

Agent: **Davies Sutton Architects of Cardiff**

This Grade II* Listed Building has been elegantly converted into luxurious apartments.

Previously under the governorship of Jesus College, Oxford, the Grammar School was rebuilt between 1847 and 1852 to the design of the architect John Pritchard. The building was designed to harmonise with the church on the one side and the ancient town gateway on the other.

The original features of blue lias stone, Welsh slated roof and gables, and tall ashlar stacks were renovated where necessary and maintained to their original form.

The building had been vacant for a number of years, therefore requiring a vast amount of work to bring it into habitable use.

A high degree of skill was required to replace the Welsh slate roof covering and the detailed leadwork.

Matching stonework was incorporated in areas of the external wall infill areas, together with sandstone features to match the existing building facade. This work was carried out to such a high standard that it is near impossible to know the difference between new and original areas.

With many of the original internal features maintained, each apartment has a unique design. Matching areas of detailing to the architraves and coving was also required. Where they had to be replaced or extended, it was undertaken to a high degree of workmanship.

The bathrooms and kitchens have been fitted to the highest standard. Staircases internally are of oak design.

Taking into consideration the overall condition of the building, prior to the commencement of the project, the developer has achieved a high quality development, as well as preserving another of our important listed buildings.

Plots 1 & 2, River Court, Treoes

Applicant:
Mr G & Mrs J Hayward

Contractor:
A.J.F Building Services Ltd

River Court is a development of modern housing set on the edge of the village of Treoes, occupying land formerly used by Great House Farm.

The nature of the built-up ground required strip foundations of almost 2.0m in depth, and both the ground and first floors were of precast concrete beam and block floors, together with a precast concrete staircase.

The contemporary designs follow a theme of mono-pitched roofs, to create a similar style of property, yet display subtle individual differences.

Features include specialist cladding of wood/upvc content, under-floor heating to all levels, angled fenestration, vaulted roofs, an integrated home entertainment system throughout the house, and rain-sensor operated roof-windows.

The contractor maintained constant contact with Building Control throughout the project, and has produced two dwellings to be proud of, which display an exemplary standard of detail and finish.

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Land at 14, Smithies Avenue, Sully

Applicant/Contractor: **Langdale Homes Ltd**

Agent: **Loyn & Co. Architects**

The work comprises two new dwellings, which replace a dilapidated bungalow on a large plot. They have been designed to maximise the stunning views to the south-west from the rear balconies across the Bristol Channel, to the north Devon coastline.

Each dwelling is a high specification, large, individually designed, 4 bedroom home. The walls are high performance specialist render on cavity blockwork. Under floor heating has been utilised, with beam and block floors. The roofs are flat 'warm roofs', using a high performance single membrane.

As an example of the generous room sizes in the development, the master bedrooms are 40sq.m plus ensuite. Large panoramic windows have been used to the rear, to benefit from the sea view. Due to the large rooms and the use of a flat roof, rooflights have been added to ensure adequate daylighting. The rear of the properties has been protected from excessive solar gain by the use of solar shading to the ground floor.

Submitted as a Full Plans application, this project was executed by a professional building team, who maintained a close liaison with Building Control throughout the project.

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Category 4 - Nomination for Social Affordable Housing

Vere Street, Barry

Applicant: **Pendragon Design & Build Ltd**

Agent: **Willdig Lammie Partnership**

Contractor: **Pendragon Design & Build Ltd**

The work consisted of 7 flats constructed over 3 storeys and a basement area incorporating the services and rear access to the communal area.

The roof design varied - with traditional pitch roof over the 3 storey section, a flat roof with a canopy design and internal rainwater drainage system over the central staircase, and a pitch roof with parapet walls over the two-storey section.

The building was constructed on a confined site, where health and safety issues were a main concern, especially as it is in a built up area. There are residential and commercial properties in close proximity, which meant limited disruption to the area.

The workmanship was carried out to an excellent standard, reflected in the air-pressure test results being very low - proving that good design, along with construction, can achieve the requirements set-out in the Building Regulations.

The building consisted of a timber frame design with traditional brickwork and brick cladding exterior, along with individual heating systems, achieving good SAP results.

The Building Regulations were submitted under a partnership scheme. The working environment involved the builder, architect, partner authority and LABC warranty, which created a good working partnership.

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Bassett Street, Barry

Applicant: **United Welsh Housing Association**

Agent: **Pentan Partnership**

Contractor: **E.T. & S. Construction Ltd**

A block of flats has been constructed on the site of a former ambulance station in Barry. The block provides 5 residential-supported, 1-bedroom apartments, with an additional apartment for a support worker.

The scheme is built over two floors and incorporates a staircase and lift to the first floor.

The building is traditionally built with masonry walls, trussed roof and concrete tiled roof and as well as having to comply to the to the building regulations had to also comply with Secure by Design Standards.

The standard of construction was high and the contractor built up a good working relationship with the Building Control Department, ensuring that all statutory inspections were undertaken, as well as non-statutory inspections.

As the project was of a domestic nature, compliance with SAP 2005 was required; including the provision for pre-completion air testing and an Energy Performance Certificate.

All the Energy Performance Certificates on each of the individual flats indicated an energy efficiency level B, in both the energy performance and environmental impact of the project.

Overall, the building is of high quality, due to the relationship between the main contractor and Building Control.

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Category 5 - Nomination for Commercial Property

New Pavilion, The Vale of Glamorgan Golf & Leisure Club, Hensol

Applicant/Contractor: **Leekes**

This new training facility is the latest of a number of developments undertaken through a partnership scheme with Building Control and Leekes.

The state of the art training facility has been constructed for the use of Cardiff City Football Club and Cardiff Blues Rugby Club.

The building has been designed to take into consideration the differing requirements of the two sports, and this is evident on all three levels.

It is a three-storey steel-framed structure with an insulated steel cladding external finish. The floors are concrete, to take into consideration its durable use.

Building regulation compliance has been achieved with access for all fire safety and energy regulations. Part of the energy requirement was to undertake an air test of the building to ensure that the air leakage rate was within the requirements of the building regulations. There was also an energy assessment of the building to predict what carbon emissions there would be from the completed building.

The building has a shared basement where the two teams have separate gymnasium facilities.

The ground and first floor are again set out so that both teams have their own dedicated areas for the theory and nutritional side of their sports.

As Leekes were the owner and contractor for this development, the quality of finish and site control of all aspects of the construction process could be closely monitored. The good working relationship with building control has been in place for a number of years.

Before the project commenced, there were pre-planning design meetings to iron out any potential problems that might arise during the construction stage.

The overall teamwork approach between Building Control and the developer was a major benefit to the success of the scheme.

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Category 5 - Nomination for Commercial Property

Llandough Hospital, Penarth

Applicant: **Cardiff & Vale Trusts**

Agent: **Stride Treglown Davies**

Contractor: **Carter Lauren**

The building combines traditional brickwork, which complements the existing Postgraduate building, with modern terracotta blockwork to create a new and fresh façade.

The plan is designed to accommodate the future extension of the library on the ground floor, flexible seminar spaces on the first floor, teaching rooms and associated offices.

Access to the facade and roof is straightforward, in order to provide an envelope that is easy and safe to maintain.

This new unit was constructed within a very confined site near the main entrance of a very busy hospital; which already has major parking and traffic flow issues.

The unit had to be constructed adjacent to an existing working educational unit, which required the contractor to provide temporary evacuation stairs. Major alterations were also ongoing within the ground floor level. Another site issue for the contractor was a major live main sewer which ran adjacent to the foundations that also had to be partially diverted in order to construct the new unit.

Numerous site meetings were held between the contractors, architects, NHS Trust staff and Building Control to plan and discuss how the project would develop through the construction process. As a consequence of this team-developed approach, the unit was constructed to a high class finish, which has proved once again that teamwork involving all parties can lead to a very good building being constructed, with minimal disruption, within an ongoing working environment.

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Fig Tree Restaurant, Penarth

Applicant: **Mr. N. Fox & Mr. M. Caplan**

Agent: **Tony King Architects**

Contractor: **Terry Ford, C/o T. A. Lee Construction**

This property, previously used as a multi-function hall and public shelter, had been in disuse for many years prior to its conversion to a modern restaurant.

The main fabric of the building required little work, except for internal plastering and finishes, to provide well equipped facilities capable of accommodating 60 people within the main restaurant, and a covered balcony area providing external seating for another 20 people.

The roof garden also accommodates a significant number of people during summer days, and is served by a service pod with 'dumb waiter' access to the main kitchen preparation area.

Set within the Penarth Conservation Area, particular regard was given to the external treatment of the conversion, together with the colour scheme and signage of the finished project.

The developers maintained close contact with Building Control, to ensure all potential problem areas were resolved without issue, and to produce a scheme worthy of inclusion in our awards.

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The Glamorgan GEM

THE Glamorgan GEM is proud to once again co-sponsor the 7th annual Vale of Glamorgan Building Awards.

As the Vale's most widely-read weekly newspaper, we are committed to supporting the community as a whole, and local businesses in particular, especially at such a difficult time economically.

As such it gives us genuine pleasure to publicly acknowledge their aspirations and achievements – and what better way to do this than through these prestigious Vale of Glamorgan Council awards?

The nominees listed in this special supplement had to fight off formidable competition to get this far and they can be justifiably proud of themselves

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Caroline Attya, General Manager

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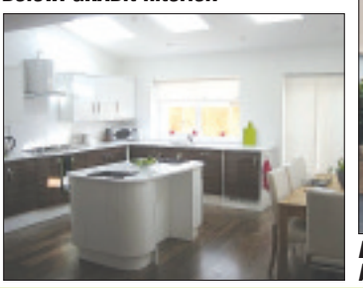

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The Five Top Tips in Home Extensions

By Fiona Evans

Manager of A One Construction in Bridgend, Fiona Evans, who has a wealth of experience advising clients on the best alterations to their homes, has provided this list of the 5 best options for improving your home:

"If you're thinking of moving in the short term, improving your kitchen and bathroom is the most important update you can make to your house, because without a doubt they are the main attraction to potential buyers. However many of our current clients are looking to make the most of their existing homes and enjoying what they have got now, plus of course, the right improvements will help sell the house in the future when the market improves.

KITCHENS: In my experience, the most popular renovation work to a house is the extension of a kitchen, either by building a single or double storey and making the kitchen larger, or by joining the kitchen and dining room together. The open plan kitchen and diner is very popular at the moment as the kitchen dining area is always a place where friends and family gather and many people feel that a separate dining room is wasted space. It also gives the chef of the house an opportunity to mingle with guests. I would always recommend buying the best kitchen units you can afford and also the very best worktop as it will last a long time and improve the value of the house should you choose to move.

A LOFT CONVERSION is very popular, as there is no groundwork necessary and often it is space going to waste. A carefully constructed loft extension can supply a family with an extra bedroom and bathroom and still give room for storing things in the eaves. Provided you can accommodate the stairs, a loft extension is an excellent option for a growing family. The position of the additional stairs is important, but with careful planning can provide so much space. As part of a larger conversion, with maybe a two storey extension, this can provide economical additional room.

BEDROOMS, ENSUITE AND BATHROOMS: If you extend the house on the ground floor it makes sense to seriously consider a double storey extension, as the cost of the work is in the foundations and is not twice the price of a single storey addition. I would not recommend extending the house beyond 4 or 5 bedrooms unless you have a very large family and need the space, but extend the master bedroom and provide a full ensuite. Providing an extra separate bathroom will add more value to the house.

As mentioned before, if you're considering moving in the short term, do spend time and money on updating your bathroom. If the sanitary ware is good, then spend money on new taps for the shower and basins and ensuring everything looks clean and bright. Invest in some fluffy towels when viewers come around. Even though you're selling the house, not the towels; small details like this can make a big impression.

CONSERVATORY: Adding a glazed extension with traditional roof or conservatory with glazed roof can be a superb choice as it is economical and yet is such an attractive proposition for buyers. Depending on where you live, many conservatories don't need a planning application and the work is far quicker and more reasonable in price than a traditional extension.

GARAGE CONVERSION: The fifth top option for improving your home is a garage conversion. Like a loft conversion, the groundwork is already provided for most internal garages and therefore can provide a great office or playroom for children at a reasonable cost. If you're not using your garage and want extra space without huge building costs, then this is a fantastic option.

So often our clients have had renovation work with the idea of selling the house, but then fallen in love with their 'new' larger house and stayed in their 'new' house.

Particularly in the colder months, when we spend more time in our homes we all become aware of the limited space we have in our houses. Extra toys for youngsters take up more room and fitting everyone around the dining table can become an issue. So it's worth costing out a well planned extension in your own home, that you can benefit from now and reap the value from, if you sell in the future."

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HAVE you been thinking that somehow your house has got smaller this year? Maybe it's the extra toys or new furniture. Maybe it's because we're spending more time indoors in the winter months? Whatever the problem, there is an answer.

Many people are using existing mortgages and the low interest rates to make the most of the home they already own, realising that they can create the space they need without moving.

Fiona Evans, Manager of A One Construction in Bridgend, has observed this pattern; they offer a full planning-to-build service and are currently working on many renovations and extensions for houses in Bridgend and the Vale and other parts of South Wales.

"Extending your home with a larger kitchen or extra bedroom, can make a tremendous effect on your living experience today, but will also pay dividends if you choose to move in the future."

Fiona offers a concierge service to her clients, using her wide experience of the building process to provide advice and support from the planning stage through to final completion.

"We provide building services from small extensions to full house build, but whatever the project; service is our priority. Sometimes something so simple as choosing kitchen tiles with a client can help a project go smoothly, but that is just part of the service we offer."

Whether you opt for a bedroom, kitchen, sun room or conservatory by the time the sun arrives you'll want to be enjoying your new extended home, so start planning now and contact Fiona for more details.

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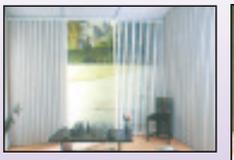

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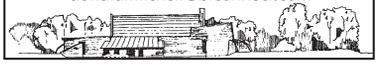

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Superb cast can't save Brothers from being an uneven piece of work...

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

AFTER his break-through turn in *Donnie Darko*, Jake Gyllenhall has slowly been building a solid body of work, mixing big budget fare with less mainstream work.

Before he truly goes supernova with the release of *Prince of Persia* later this year, audiences can see him in Irish director Jim Sheridan's latest film, *Brothers*.

Gyllenhall plays Tommy, who is recently released from prison and reconnects with his family, particularly older brother Sam (Tobey Maguire), a marine.

When Sam is posted to Afghanistan and goes missing, presumed dead, Tommy begins to develop a relationship with Sam's wife Grace (Natalie Portman) and his two nieces, as they learn to live their lives without Sam; but when Sam is found and returns home, the lives of all three of them begin to change dramatically...

Having all achieved a degree of fame and renown in a similar time period, *Brothers* offers the opportunity for Tobey Maguire, Jake Gyllenhall and Natalie Portman to prove they have the necessary nous to deliver in more dramatic fare.

While they definitely deliver here, it is a shame that the material that supports them is so flimsy and workmanlike that it renders their turns a touch worthless in the overall scheme of things.

Certainly, the main three performances make the film better than the material would allow, with all three of the performers delivering strong turns that offer up a little more substance than we've seen from them in a while.

The real revelation is Tobey Maguire, who casts off the *Spiderman* outfit and proves that, before he was a superhero, he was also a pretty good actor. His performance as a family man whose love for his wife and children sits alongside his devotion to serve his country is the best on show, the nobility and commitment to the cause giving way to slow breakdown as the effects of his return affect both him and those close to him.

Maguire shows a deft ability here, letting the horrors he suffers boil slowly to the surface, with the smallest of actions (popping his daughter's balloon, reacting to noises in the night by waving a gun around) hinting at even more trouble below the surface.

As the wife whose love for her husband is tested by the events that take place in Aghanistan, Natalie Portman delivers another mature performance that feels credible and affecting.

Much like Maguire, hers is a performance that slowly unravels as her character gets put through the ringer and the actress is more than up to the task, captivating the screen and never failing to elicit an emotional response, wonderfully conveying the situation she finds herself in.

As the black sheep of the family, Jake Gyllenhall offers another robust turn, getting to grips with the process of developing the character as events force him to take a look at his life, and if he suffers from the failure of the script to really get under the skin of his character, his performance certainly manages to paper over the cracks.

David Benioff's screenplay, adapted from the Danish film of the same name, is the one element that fails to hold up its end of the bargain, feeling muddled, lacking notable depth despite its heavy subject matter and feeling very much undercooked.

Given the drama that unfolds throughout the course of the film, you would imagine the story would severely tug at the heartstrings, yet Benioff struggles to really convince.

He fails to give meat to the narrative and and reduces sub-plots that could have given the story depth (Tommy's crime, the relationship the two brothers have with their father, the relationship between Grace and Tommy) to barely anything.

It is frustrating, particularly as Irish director Jim Sheridan attempts to give the film a degree of punch and emotion.

His skill as a director certainly helps bring out the solid performances from his cast, as there are also strong offerings from Sam Shepard as the brothers' father, Bailee Madison and Taylor Geare as Sam and Grace's two daughters, and a small cameo from up and coming British actress Carey Mulligan; however, saddled with Benioff's weak and well worn screenplay, the director isn't able to transform the material given to him into gold.

It's a shame that such strong performances can't quite bring the rest of the film up to speed, but unfortunately Benioff's script is the main weight that brings down *Brothers* – and makes such superb turns from the cast feel a touch spoiled.

VERDICT - Somewhat of an underwhelming misfire, *Brothers* sees the performances of Tobey Maguire, Jake Gyllenhall and Natalie Portman pack a punch that is undone by David Benioff's lacklustre script.

If only this had been improved upon, then *Brothers* would be a powerful look at the effect of loss on a family; instead it is an uneven piece of work held together by a superb cast. *Average*.

NEWS FROM POSITIVE IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

A new venture for PIPS group

A member's image called 'Canada'.

FOLLOWING an enforced winter break due to the recent bad weather, Positive Image Photographic Society members got together for their 'Late, Late Christmas Dinner', at the Mount Sorrel Hotel.

The New Year not only promises an exciting mix of guest speakers, but also a new venture when members will be exhibiting images publicly for the first time.

This has not been practicable before because the home base, St Baruc's Church, Barry Island, is, of course, in constant use and a suitable, alternative venue, has not been available.

'Just Pictures', an exhibition of members' work will open to the public at the Park Gallery, Victoria Park, Cadoxton on February 6 and will continue until February 28. (*More details are available from John Greatrex on 07809 551465).*

The next meeting, on February 4, will feature Gareth Martin 'CPAGB' who will be making his first visit to PIPS. Gareth's presentation of images of the Highlands of Scotland promises to be a feast of brilliant landscapes.

Positive image Photographic Society meets at 7.30pm on alternate Thursdays at St Baruc's Church, Phyllis Street, Barry Island. New members will be made very welcome.

Further details of the club and forthcoming events including forthcoming competition details are on the societies website at ***www.positiveimagebarry.org.uk.***

Local man leads the battle to save butterfly from a killer parasite

OXFORD University research ecologist Owen Lewis, formerly of Bridgend, is leading a countrywide study into the sudden decline of one of Britain's most colourful garden butterflies.

Talking to members of the Bridgend Wildlife Group, Dr Lewis explained that the Small Tortoiseshell (Aglais urticae) is under threat from an alien species of a parasitoid fly (Sturmia Bella) which is believed to be partly responsible for a sudden crash in the butterflies' UK population.

The fly crossed the English Channel in 1968, arriving in Hampshire before moving slowly north.

The rapid decline started in 2008. The insect – the size of a house fly – appears to single out the Tortoiseshell by laying eggs on the underside of nettles next to the butterflies' caterpillars, said Dr. Lewis.

The eggs hatch and develop within the caterpillars as they grow, ultimately killing their hosts and wiping out an entire summer brood.

A research team made up of Oxford scientists and experts from other wildlife groups, including Butterfly Conservation, rely on 200 volunteers across the UK to collect the butterflies' caterpillars and breed them in captivity, before sending the results to the team for laboratory analysis.

Dr Lewis, a fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, and working in the Zoology department, said that the results of the survey over two years – involving 150 batches of eggs – showed that two thirds were attacked by Sturmia Bella.

However, more research was needed to prove that the fly (among other natural predators and parasites) was largely responsible for the butterflies' death.

The Small Tortoiseshell made a welcome recovery in September 2008 by a continental influx of the species across southern Britain from the east coast, but UK numbers are still declining.

Dr Lewis revealed for the first time that Sturmia Bella had moved to the north of England where results of predation were being monitored. The fly has also arrived in south Wales – with evidence from Cowbridge and Pontypool.

"What we are still trying to work out is whether Sturmia Bella is responsible for the decline of the Small Tortoiseshell – so we need to know more about the biology of the fly. The question is: does Sturmia Bella compete with other native parasitoids?" said Dr Lewis.

Richard Smith of Butterfly Conservation South Wales, said: "This year, amateur butterfly enthusiasts will be taking part in the survey – collecting larvae from a number of habitats in Wales. This is important work to help identify all the contributory causes for the butterflies' decline.

Owen Lewis.

"From our own records of a survey in one area of the Vale of Glamorgan, we can confirm that sitings of the Small Tortoiseshell were down to three for the entire year of 2008."

The Small Tortoiseshell was a rarity in South Wales through the summer of 2008 - but the butterfly began appearing on nectar-rich garden Buddleia in the autumn, thanks to a late migration from the continent.

Undoubtedly, it is one our loveliest butterflies and was commonly seen in past years, feeding on garden flowers, alongside Red Admirals and Peacocks, throughout the summer.

It hibernates during the winter – hiding in garden sheds, on ivy-clad walls and trees – and even indoors behind curtains and blinds.

The current research programme is vital for the butterfly's survival.

Two wins out of three for Llantwit boxers

CELTIC Club, Maesteg was the latest venue for three Llantwit Major boxers.

Lee Dixon from Rhoose boxed N Sheeran, Caerau Dragons ABC, in a three two-minute rounds contest. Lee boxed well behind a good straight left hand, winning the first two rounds.

Sheeran changed his tactics in the last round, trying to stay close to Lee. The Llantwit boxer was guilty of holding, and the referee gave him a public warning which meant Sheeran would receive two additional points. However, Lee got the decision from the judges by a wide margin.

RIGHT:* *Lee Dixon.

Dan Ruffle was the second Llantwit Major ABC to box, his opponent D Andrews of Taibach ABC.

Andrews took the contest to Dan, missing with most of his shots. Dan countered throughout this evenly matched bout. he moved well around the ring, and he won the contest on a unanimous decision from the three judges.

Dale Phillips boxed the host club boxer T Penny in the last bout of the night. Dale had lost weight for this contest and fought well for the two rounds. The last round saw the boxer from the strong Maesteg club coming forward throughout the final round. Dale was under pressure but taking most of the blows on his arms. The referee gave Dale Phillips a standing count of eight, and Penny got the close decision.

Barry Lions' concert for Haiti

BARRY Lions Club have rushed to the aid of the people of Haiti – and members are feeling a sense of personal loss.

A club spokesman said: "The Haiti earthquake has affected Lions Clubs directly, as two members of Haiti Lions were killed in the disaster, as were some relatives of other members of the club.

"Despite their personal tragedies, the members, together with a visiting Lions Club from Canada, helped in the rescue activities. Lions Clubs International has already responded with an immediate donation of $350,000 and funds are pouring in from other clubs throughout the world.

"Barry Lions Club had already arranged a charity ABBA tribute night for January 30 at the Old School, Sully, and it has now been agreed that all the proceeds will be sent to add to the reconstruction funds for the Haitians."

Barry Lions Club's 'ABBA' Extravaganza features local singing star Maria Lyn.

It takes place on Saturday, January 30 at 7.30pm for an 8pm start at The Old School, South Road, Sully.

There will be a licensed bar and buffet and tickets are £15 each – contact the following for details: John Arbourne – 029 2053 0114; Ian Mathias – 029 2053 0441; Julian Meredith – 029 2053 0004.

Vale Council offers charities recycling deal to boost funds

CHARITIES are being offered the opportunity to boost their funds and help the environment by forging recycling partnerships with the Vale Council.

Under a new scheme agreed by the council cabinet, charities contributing recyclable waste being removed from the domestic waste stream, will be paid £10 per tonne for their material.

A number of controls will ensure against error and fraud, and these will include providing proof that the material is from the household waste stream within the Vale boundaries. The projected payment will reflect the value of the material in recycling markets, and the savings which will be made by the council in not having to collect and dispose of the material.

Two charities, Scope, the organisation supporting those with disabilities whose focus is people with cerebal palsy, and Clothes Aid, will be the first recipients in the Vale. Their materials include paper, glass, cans and textiles.

Schools, colleges, or third party commercial recycling organisations from whom waste is currently collected by the council, would not be eligible.

The cabinet member for visible and building services, Coun Geoff Cox said: "It is important that the council continues to encourage recycling across the community and that the council benefits from the additional tonnages to assist with meeting Welsh Assembly Government recycling targets."

The Vale Council's current recycling and composting rate is just over 41 per cent, and Assembly targets are 40 per cent (by 2010), 52 per cent (2012-13) and 70 per cent (2024-25). Every 100 tonnes of recycling collected at a cost of £1,000 represents a 0.43 per cent contribution towards the targets.

Email your news and views to: ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk***

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE?

Mr John Mills – **St Lythans House, St Lythans,** – single storey side extension.
Mr Paul Gaughan – **Deg Erw, Twyn Yr Odyn, St Lythans** – detached garage.
BT Openreach Wayleaves Dept – **outside 39 Pyymouth Road, Penarth** – new green metal cabinet (height 1,600mm, width 1,299mm, depth 450mm).
Mr Sid Gaughan – **land adjacent to Marsyn, St Lythans** – proposed single storey stable facilities.
Barracuda Group – **The Buccaneer, 62-66 Holton Road, Barry** – variation of Condition 3 - m05/01859/FUL - change of use from Class A1 (retail) to Class A3 (food and drink) including new rear extension, external area and new shop front.
Beechwood Court Limited – **Beechwood College, Hayes Road, Sully** – two-storey extension to existing college providing a new sluice room and cleaners' room.
Mr Peter Marriot – **66 High Street, Cowbridge** – construction of glass porch.
Mr Colin Anstee – **Willow Cottage, Treoes** – extension and alterations out outbuilding stables, to create new dwelling as amendment to previous approved application 2009/00322/FUL.
Mr and Mrs G May – **6 Brig y Don Hill, Ogmore by Sea** – loft conversion including erection of two dormers to front and two dormers to rear elevation.
Openreach PP110A – **Baptist Church Cottage, Victoria Road, Penarth** – new fibre optic modular cabinet (Grid ref 318336, 171380).
Mr and Mrs Simon Chandler – **3 Tennyson Road, Penarth** – single storey rear extension to provide and breakfast room.
Mr and Mrs J Raymond – **Waterton Lodge, Colwinston** – single storey extension to existing dwelling to provide annexe accommodation.
Openreach – **opposite 31 Victoria Road, Penarth** – new fibre optic modular cabinet.
Mr Simon Steele – **1 Halton Close, Penarth** – single storey extension with dormer windows to roof and new detached garage with new vehicular access to highway.
Openreach – **Hickman Road, next to 9 Bradenham Place, Penarth** – new fibre optic cabinet.
Mr Shakur Ahmed – **Barn at Welford Farm, Rhoose** – barn conversion.
Openreach Narrowband Wayleave Office – **side of 84 Stanwell Road (actual site is in Roseberry Place), Penarth** – green coloured fibre optic cabinet.
Mr Karl Stephens – **The Sycamores, St Owains Crescent, Ystradowen** – conversion of existing garage and proposed first floor side extension above converted garage.
Openreach Narrowband Wayleave Office – **19 Cwrt Y Vil Road, Penarth** – one new green coloured fibre optic modular cabinet.
Mr S Collier – **Springfield, Westra, Dinas Powys** – proposed single storey conservatory.
Llancarfan and District Community Association – **Llancarfan Community Hall, Llancarfan** – extension to existing community hall, incorporating disabled toilet facilities with additional storage area. Replacement windows to existing building to existing fenestration, plus replacement doors to existing.
Openreach Narrowband Wayleave Office – **side of No 30, Clive Place, Penarth** – new fibre optic modular cabinet.
Openreach Narrowband Wayleave Office – **outside Balmoral Quays, The Esplanade, Penarth** – one new fibre optic modular cabinet.
Penarth Town Council – **The Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth** – replace corrugated asbestos cement cladding with vertical clay tile hanging. Renew flat roof covering and parapet repairs.
Tesco Ltd – **Tesco Stores Ltd, Stirling Road, Barry** – construction of a glazed lobby extension to the store with sliding doors to either side and main shopfront opening. Street furniture relocated to accommodate new lobby.
Wales and West Housing Association – **62-98 Wyndham Street, Barry** – supply and erect steel bow top rails 700mm high to boundary wall of David Davies House.
Mr Paul Snelling – **Unit B, Valegate Retail Park, Copthorne** – amendments to shop front.
Openreach Narrowband Wayleave Office – **adjacent to No 1 John Street, Penarth** – new fibre optic modular cabinet.
Mr and Mrs Andrew Thomas – **The Gables, 60 Broadway, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – single storey rear extension to increase kitchen/breakfast/living space. Removal of garage replaced with new store and new ensuite at first floor to bedroom one. Roof replacement to existing family bathroom/ensuite adjacent.
Mr Lesley John Berger – **Apartments 1, 2, 3 and 4 Highfield Close, Park Road, Barry** – 1) refurbishment and bedroom extension to first floor flat to existing building, including new window opening to ground floor living dining room and pergola over. 2) Car parking to serve three flats (1, 2 and 3) and maisonette (No 4) at rear.
Mr Paul Stinati – **8 West Acres, Llanmaes** – single storey kitchen and bedroom extensions.
JD Clowes – **5 High Street, Cowbridge** – renewal of application 05/00097/FUL for conversion of retail premises from rented house.
Mr R Evans – **The Stables, Cae Stumpie, Cowbridge** – addition of wooden fencing to front and side above existing retaining wall.
Mr Alan Griffiths – **Lawn Cottage, Ystradowen** – erection of extension and alteration of existing building.
Angela Green – **Montclair, Michaelston Le Pit, dinas Powys** – fell three sycamore stems.
Penny Jones – **4 Merevale, Dinas Powys** – reduce chestnut.
Mr Mark Edwards – **1 New Barn, Flemingston** – provision of caravan touring park including conveniences, pitches, public open space etc.
Mr Michael Sing – **34 Shakespeare Avenue, Penarth** – rear roof extension to form loft conversion.
Mr Michael Chapman – **3 Downs View, Aberthin** – two-storey extension to the side of dwelling with single storey extension to rear.
Matrix Reality Investments Limited – **New primary care centre, Innovation Quarter, adjacent Hood Road, Barry** – relocation and re-design of an external bin store for Innovation Quarter Medical Centre.
Mrs Rachel Davies – **5 Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan** – single and two-storey extension to rear and porch extension to front.
Mr Christopher Evans – **1 St-Y-Nyll Cottages, Heol St-Y-Nyll, St Brides** – two-storey kitchen/lounge/bedroom extension. Two-storey front porch extension, double garage and summer house.
Mr Owen Hopkin – **15 Sullivan Close, Penarth** – two-storey side extension and single storey rear extension.
Mr Alex French – **26 Augusta Road, Penarth** – conversion of roof space to provide two bedrooms and bathroom and single storey side extension.
Graham James Property – **land between 34 and 35 High Street and 106 and 107 Queen Street, Barry** – development of seven residential units.
Mr C Regan – **south of television transmitting station, Windy Ridge Farm, Wenvoe** – detached agricultural building.
Mr T Cuddihy – **Gatekeepers Lodge, Hayes Point, Hayes Road, Sully** – double garage with ancillary offices/studio and replacement/new boundary wall enclosure.
Mr and Mrs Richard Calcaterra – **The Nest, St Hilary** – single storey extension to the front of existing dwelling.
Mr A Littlejohn – **43 Fairfield Rise, Llantwit Major** – alteration to existing roof form and extension.
Mr John Phillips – **Palla Farm, Peterston Super Ely** – replacement agricultural storage building (retrospective).

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas
Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01359/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Amendments to application 2009/00011/FUL to provide a kitchen extension with en-suite bedroom at first floor level and a utility extension
Location:/Lleoliad: The Chestnuts, Llysworney
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Llysworney

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01365/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: External alterations comprising demolition, construction of new store entrance portico and orangery on rear elevation
Location:/Lleoliad: Tumblers Chase, St Hilary, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth St. Hilary

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00003/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of existing garage into living accommodation to form self contained auxiliary accommodation annexed to existing house and new single storey garage in existing garden.
Location:/Lleoliad: The Meadows, St. Hilary, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth St. Hilary

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00011/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Provide a safe system to enclose the wheelie bins to prevent them straying onto the public highway and to avoid any fly tipping in the area
Location:/Lleoliad: 11, Windsor Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00012/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Change of Use of First Floor units (A3) to Live/Work Units
Location:/Lleoliad: Washington Buildings, Stanwell Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Ardal Gadwraeth Cowbridge with Llanblethian

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00007/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Restoration of existing grade II listed building, regularisation of use of existing second floor involving alterations to existing rear wing, erection of two and a half storey extension to rear wing, and single storey dining room extension to rear of building
Location:/Lleoliad: Downs Farm House, Wick Road, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00016/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Remove existing black awning above ground floor walkway and replace with a retractable black awning
Location:/Lleoliad: Marooned Hairdressers, 52A, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building
Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01280/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of garage to provide accommodation for parents
Location:/Lleoliad: Vicarage Lawns, St Brides Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting The Old Vicarage, Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01305/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Extension and alterations of outbuilding stables, to create new dwelling as amendment to previous approved application 2009/00322/FUL
Location:/Lleoliad: Willow Cottage, Treoes
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Saron Chapel, Grade II and The Star Inn Public House, Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00006/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Restoration of existing grade II listed building, regularisation of use of existing second floor involving alterations to existing rear wing, erection of two and a half storey extension to rear wing, and single storey dining room extension to rear of building
Location:/Lleoliad: Downs Farmhouse, Wick Road, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Downs Farmhouse, Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar- vog.planning-register.co.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF
(TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest
Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01336/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Provision of caravan touring park including conveniences, pitches, public open space etc.
Location:/Lleoliad: 1, New Barn, Flemingston

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01360/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Landside extension to Cardiff Airport terminal building including re-configuration of passenger drop off area and associated works
Location:/Lleoliad: Cardiff Airport, Rhoose

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01367/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Temporary Car Park for the duration of the construction of the MHSOP Project. The Car Park provides parking for the building contractor's operatives and compensates for the loss of Staff Car Parking spaces which have been overlayed by the temporary diversion of the Hospital Service Road. Staff car parking spaces will be reinstated upon completion of the development
Location:/Lleoliad: Llandough Hospital, Penlan Road, Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2009/01368/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of land at St. Johns Well for up to 100 dwellings, public open space and associated access
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at St. Johns Well, St. Athan

Departure from the Provision of the Development Plan
Ceisiadau nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio â Darpariaeth y Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2009/01368/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of land at St. Johns Well for up to 100 dwellings, public open space and associated access
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at St. Johns Well, St. Athan

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk
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Dated: 28 January, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 28 Ionawr, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

Cadoxton Tae Kwon Do look back on year

Back row: John Hawkins, Morganne Gomez Jones, Jamie Halford, Matthew Bennett, Callum Sullivan and Carole Newman. Front row: Morgan Stavert Hawkins, Ollie Tipples, Lucy Newman and Thomas Haysham.

IN December, the Cadoxton School of Tae Kwon Do celebrated a successful year with its annual awards night.

A good time was had by all and the awards were given out as follows:

For all her fundraising efforts, the first award of the night went to Mrs Carole Newman.

The 'most potential' trophy was awarded to Ollie Tipples. Ollie recently attended his first tournament and came away with second place, demonstrating he has the ability to succeed on the tournament scene.

The best beginner trophy went to Matthew Bennett; Matthew, who attends Barry Boys Comprehensive School, joined in early 2009.

Most improved trophy went to Callum Sullivan. Callum attends Barry Boys Comprehensive School and has been training in TKD for six years.

The most improved fighter went to Morgan Stavert Hawkins. The improvement in Morgan was seen when he ended the year by taking gold in the last of the grand prix tournaments.

Thomas Haysham and Lucy Newman were the recipients of the perseverance trophy. Over the past year, both students showed remarkable perseverance, not only on the tournament scene, but also in their weekly training.

Competitor of 2009 went to Jon Hawkins; Jon has only been competing for the last 18 months and has shown his will to win, together with good sportmanship.

Student of the year 2009 went to Morganne Gomez Jones. Morganne, who attends Bryn Hafren School, had a good year with the high point winning two world titles at the world games in the USA.

The very popular Jamie Halford of St Richard Gwyn School was the recipient of the star student award. This award will be given out every year in memory of Michael Conibear, and was donated and presented by Mike's mum, Mrs Pauline Conibear.

Jamie has been training in Tae Kwon Do for the past 11 years, maturing into a valuable member and student of the Cadoxton School. Jamie is an all-rounder, now teaching and coaching the younger students.

For further information and training times, telephone 01446 406372.

RON THOMAS, 7th Degree (President of TAE)

Grant helps basketball club to go electronic

The Barry Huskies Second team with Coun Ernest, Alun Rees and Julie Andrus.

SOUTH Wales' oldest basketball club is set to record its on-court success in style after a grant from the Sports Council for Wales helped buy a new portable scoreboard and clock.

The Barry Huskies have been at the heart of local basketball for five decades, having been established in 1963, and a £1,000 Community Chest grant enables them to keep up with the times – and scores.

The new portable scoreboard will be in use for matches at the Holm View Leisure Centre in Barry, as the club aim for top spot in the South Wales Valleys League.

Agreed by a panel of volunteers with support from the Vale Council's sports and play development team and the Sports Council, the Community Chest grants scheme supports clubs and organisations that aim to provide new and improved opportunities for local people to take part in sports and physical activities.

The £1,000 – the maximum grant available – was a welcome boost for the Huskies, as club chairman Alun Rees explained: "We are absolutely delighted to have received this grant.

In addition to being able to buy the new scoreboard, we are also using some of the grant to improve coaching standards and, hopefully, attract the next generation of players to the game."

Congratulating the club on their grant, the Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism, Coun Anthony Ernest, said: "It's great to see another club benefit from the Community Chest scheme, and I hope that their new scoreboard records many Barry Huskies victories for years to come."

If you are part of a Vale-based organisation, club or workplace and would like to discuss a potential Community Chest application, contact the Vale Council's sports and play development manager, Karen Davies, on 01446 704793 or request an application form by calling Julie Morgan on 01446 704748.

For more about the Barry Huskies Basketball Club go online at www.barryhuskies.net or call Alun Rees on 07939 058170.

Riders' double success

LOCAL riders Nick Williams and James Tudor both rode winners over the weekend.

At Larkhill on Saturday, Tudor was successful on the odds-on favourite *Roulez Cool* and Williams took a division of the maiden on *That'll Do*.

n Sunday, Tudor scored on *Start Royal* in the intermediate race at the Waveney Harriers meeting, and Williams won on *Fredwell* at the Tiverton point-to-point.

Tudor and Williams are assistant trainers to Llancarfan's Evan Williams who saddled 12-1 winner *Akarshan* in the handicap hurdle race at Market Rasen; stable jockey Paul Moloney was in the saddle.

BRIAN LEE

Barry netball A team wins representative honours

THE Barry netball club A and B teams are enjoying a winning streak and are currently second and third in their divisions of the Cardiff and District Netball league which, hopefully, will lead to promotion for both teams next season.

The A team are doing really well with good wins over local team Red Dragons and CTK, and their coach Julian Mctavish is doing a great job with their fitness levels.

Julian has just taken his UK level 1 netball coaching award and together with his fitness background, is a great asset to the club.

Four girls from the team were chosen to trial for the under-21 Cardiff and Vale team and they were all successful. Abi Denton, Becky Farr, Sara Meredith and Lauren Rothery were invited to play in a regional tournament but, unfortunately, Sarah and Lauren had prior commitments.

This is a great achievement by them all and the club is very proud of their efforts.

Thanks to Julian and Alex Denton for their great commitment the club.

The B team who are not able to train every week as their league night falls on a Monday are doing a brilliant job. Against adult teams, this young squad – whose ages range from 13-17 – are showing great determination, lead by Amber Pringle and Megan Doyle.

Jordan Dent and Megan Thickpenny are doing a great job in defence and are a pleasure to watch.

If anyone is interested in joining the club who train at Colcot Sports Hall on a Monday evening, contact Linda Rees on 01446 749965; ages range from eight-adult.

LINDA REES

The Vale Cricket Club gears up for new season

In preparation for the 2010 season, Vale Cricket Club started winter nets at The SWALEC Stadium, Cardiff on Monday, January 25, at 8.30pm.

The club remains in division two of the newly re-named Glamorgan & Monmouthshire Cricket League. Last season's captains, Matt Gilbert, 1st XI, Mark Francis, 2nd XI and Chris Pike, 3rd XI, remain in place following the club's AGM.

The club, which boasts some of the best local facilities at its Corntown headquarters, has an expanding membership running three senior sides and six junior sides from ages nine to 15.

In order to boost its profile further, the club is working towards EWCB accreditation.

The club's chairman Iwan Davies is hoping to bring premier league cricket to the club within the next five years and to challenge the established borough clubs of Bridgend and Tondu, and Vale neighbours Cowbridge.

New players interested in attending nets or joining the club can contact club captain Matt Gilbert on 07967312440, or secretary Richard Adamec on 07912 747112.

Vale Sports Personality

THE Vale Council is inviting residents to reward local sporting excellence during 2009 by sending in nominations for the 'Vale Sports Personality of the Year' awards.

There are a total of 10 award categories and the deadline for all nominations is Sunday, January 31. These could be elite performers who made the headlines during 2009 or individuals and teams who are making a big impact on the local sporting scene.

All nominees must either be from the Vale currently live there, or represent a team or club in the county.

Organised by volunteers from the Vale District Sports Council and supported by the Vale Council's sports and play development team, the annual ceremony will be held in the spring.

Nominations can be made online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/sportspersonality or request a form by calling Julie Morgan on 01446 704748.

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CARDIFF & VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS AA CARDIFF CROSS CHALLENGE 2010 AND THE MCCAIN UK CARDIFF CROSS CHALLENGE, BLACKWEIR, CARDIFF

RECORD NUMBER OF PUPILS COMPETE IN CARDIFF PARKLAND ATHLETICS EVENTS

Report by PETER MORRIS
Photos by IAN DIXON

A RECORD number of Vale pupils competed for Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools at the 33rd Invitation Schools' Inter-County & Inter District Match held within the McCain UK Cardiff Cross Challenge at Blackweir.

More than 160 pupils took part in the maroon vest with the gold hoop of Cardiff & the Vale, with 65 coming from the Vale. Every secondary school in the Vale – Cowbridge, Llantwit, Barry Comprehensive, Bryn Hafren, Bro Morgannwg, St Richard Gwyn, Stanwell, St Cyres and Westbourne – plus Barry College had at least one pupil taking part.

Unlike competitions in other sports, this fixture catered for an age range starting from pupils in primary school to Master athletes over 70 through its 13-race programme, held over four and a half hours on a course which was sticky and cut up after the recent heavy snowfall.

With runners drawn from clubs across the UK, plus more than 500 pupils in the school teams from Afan Nedd Tawe, Cardiff & the Vale, Dyfed, Glamorgan Valleys, Gloucestershire and Powys, this was a tough opening fixture of the year.

In the schools' section, Megan Osborne was the only Vale athlete to claim an individual medal, the Llantwit year-9 pupil ran strongly to take second behind old rival Rebecca Evans (Glamorgan Valleys, Y Pant) in the junior girls section, the second biggest female race of the day with 101 finishers.

Host organising district Cardiff & the Vale, has struggled to make an impact in the team competitions at this fixture in recent years, but fortunes may be changing as they claimed wins in two sections.

The year-7 boys win was completely out of the blue, easily beating Gloucestershire by more than 30 points, with Elliot Morris Devred (Barry Comp) having easily his best run of the winter to finish 21st in the race and 14th in the schools' section, and making the sixth scoring spot in the team.

There was a second success in the penultimate race for the schools – for middle boys in years 10 and 11. Here Cardiff & the Vale fielded a very young – mainly year-10 – team but they responded magnificently to defeat an older and more experienced Gloucestershire squad by five points.

Three Vale pupils were in the six A team scorers. Year-10 Rory Heslop (Bro Morgannwg) was another to chose this big stage to have his best run of the winter, finishing 18th overall and 8th in the schools' section, with another year-10, Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive), two places behind and year-11 Rhys George (Bro Morgannwg) completing the scoring six, 40th overall and 25th in the schools' section.

It was good to see Owen Haswell (Stanwell) and Caitlin Bryant (The Cathedral) back in action after missing the autumn term races. Owen led the senior boys team home, finishing 11th in the schools' section, three ahead of Darren Jones (Llantwit).

Caitlin found things much tougher in the Middle Girls race, having to settle for third Vale finisher behind Bethan Daw (St Cyres), who was the first Cardiff & Vale girl home, 23rd in the race and 13th in the schools, and Fiona Bray (Cowbridge).

In the junior boys' race, the Vale contingent were led home by year-8 pupils Dafydd George (Bro Morgannwg) and Ben Owen (Llantwit) but they will be disappointed at only scoring for the district B team.

Nadine James was the top Vale year girl. The Cowbridge pupil finished just ahead of school-mate Rebecca Thomas in 37th overall, and 19th in the schools.

There was only one Vale sixth form girl competing in the six girl senior squad, and year-12 Bethan Heslop (Bro Morgannwg) had a very creditable run.

In the two primary races, pupils from Evenlode, in Penarth, fielded the biggest number of pupils with Harry Williams finishing fifth in the boys' race and Seren Marsh claiming top spot in the girls' event. Dewi Bennett, listed simply as Barry, was fourth in the boys' run.

In the races for older club athletes, it was encouraging to see former St Cyres pupil Alex Hains back in action in Wales – he finished fourth in the senior men's race – while former Barry & Vale Harriers Phil Cook (Les Croupiers), now eligible as an M40-44, also took fourth place in the Mixed Master race.

For the pupils in the Cardiff & the Vale Schools team, this event was both a test and a stepping stone towards selection for the 12-strong district teams, which will be fielded at year 7, junior (years 8 and 9), middle (years 10 and 11) and senior (sixth form) at the Aviva 48th Welsh Schools' championships at Brecon on Saturday, February 27.

Boys and girls both had one fixture left to clinch their place in the team, with the boys third league fixture (incorporating the 2010 championships) having been held at Trelai on Tuesday of this week (January 26), and the equivalent girls' fixture following on Tuesday, February 9 on the same Trelai course.

Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' association would like to record its gratitude to Messrs Fred Malkin (Barry & Vale Harriers), Rob Glaves (St Cyres) and Rhys Beynon (Bro Morgannwg) for helping with team management and event organisation.

Vale results

Races with Secondary Schools' Inter-County Match – the number after a pupil's school indicates their position in the school's section.

Senior boys: 6.5 km – 57 finishers – Individuals: 27 Owen Haswell (Stanwell, 11) 22:07; 33 Darren Jones (Llantwit, 14) 22:34; 42 Dominic Farr (Bro Morgannwg, 23) 23:39; 51 Joseff Whitmarsh-Knight (Bro Morgannwg, 32) 24:57; 57 Kyle Garrison (Barry College, 38) 30:10.

Teams: 3 Cardiff & the Vale 129; 4 Cardiff & the Vale B 208.

Middle boys – Years 10 and 11 – 6 km – 81 finishers – Individuals: 18 Rory Heslop (Bro Morgannwg, 8) 20:35; 20 Matthew Edwards (Barry, 10) 20:44; 40 Rhys George (Bro Morgannwg, 25) 22:02; 42 Dan Lewis (St Cyres, 27) 22:07; 57 Morgan Preece (Bro Morgannwg, 40) 22:52; 70 Tom Howles (Llantwit, 52) 24:10; 74 Dan Owen (Llantwit, 56) 24:46; 75 Huw Evans (Stanwell, 57) 24:49; 77 Abdel Boulaiche (St Cyres, 59) 25:10.

Teams: 1 Cardiff & the Vale 74; 7 Cardiff & the Vale B 239.

Junior boys – Years 8 and 9 – 4.2 km – 110 finishers – Individuals: 63 Dafydd George (Bro Morgannwg, 37) 16:09; 65 Ben Owen (Llantwit, 39) 16:14; 81 Jake Bosza (Westbourne, 53) 17:08; 83 Jacob Briscombe (Bro Morgannwg, 55) 17:14; 84 Matthew Collins (Barry, 56) 17:17; 87 Tom Griffiths (Bro Morgannwg, 58) 17:30; 90 Sam Laity (Westbourne, 61) 17:36; 99 Sam Peterken (St Cyres, 70) 18:05; dnf Harri Williams (Bro Morgannwg).

Teams: 4 Cardiff & the Vale 136; 7 Cardiff & the Vale B 232; 9 Cardiff & the Vale C 294; 10 Cardiff & the Vale D 353; 11 Cardiff & the Vale E 433.

Year-7 boys – 3 km – 82 finishers – Individuals: 21 Elliot Morris-Devred (Barry Comp, 14) 10:50; 24 Ellis Rosser (Cowbridge, 17) 10:54; 26 Tom Lucas (Cowbridge, 19) 10:58; 45 Kristian Jones (Cowbridge, 37) 11:23; 50 David Constantino (Stanwell, 41) 11:26; 51 Doug Wilson (B of Llandaff, 42) 11:29; 52 Toby Walker (Cowbridge, 43) 11:30; 58 Huw Bennett (Cowbridge, 49) 11:42; 65 Scott Dutfield (Stanwell, 55) 11:52; 67 David Flanigan (Stanwell, 57) 11:53.

Teams: 1 Cardiff & the Vale 48; 4 Cardiff & the Vale B 142; 7 Cardiff & the Vale C 255; 11 Cardiff & the Vale D 335.

4.8 km – 42 finishers – Individuals: 38 Bethan Heslop (Bro Morgannwg, 24) 23:10.

Teams – 4 to score: 5 Cardiff & the Vale 75.

Middle girls – 4.8 km – 72 finishers – Individuals: 23 Bethan Daw (St Cyres, 13) 18:39; 36 Fiona Bray (Cowbridge, 26) 19:22; 39 Caitlin Bryant (The Cathedral, 29) 19:44; 42 Eloise Laity (Westbourne, 32) 19:52; 49 Anthea Young (Llantwit, 39) 20:36; 50 Danielle Green (St Richard Gwyn, 40) 20:41; 62 Rachel Bradshaw (Cowbridge, 52) 23:04; 68 Amy Baldry (Llantwit, 58) 24:24.

Teams: 3 Cardiff & the Vale 153; 6 Cardiff & the Vale B 224; 7 Cardiff & the Vale C 303.

Junior girls – Years 8 and 9 – 4.2 km – 101 finishers – Individuals: 14 Megan Osborne (Llantwit, 2) 13:47; 40 Lucy Tarrant (Llantwit, 25) 14:52; 45 Erin Hayes (Llantwit, 30) 15:01; 77 Rebecca John (Cowbridge, 59) 16:05; 78 Miriam Bennett (Cowbridge, 60) 16:07; 83 Rachel Cosier (Bryn Hafren, 65) 16:18; 85 Tillie Carter (Bryn Hafren, 67) 16:26; 96 Ffion Davies (Bro Morgannwg, 78) 17:50; 97 Bethan Yapp (Bro Morgannwg, 79) 17:55; 98 Caitlin Young (Bro Morgannwg, 80) 18:11.

Teams: 4 Cardiff & the Vale 105; 6 Cardiff & the Vale B 225; 9 Cardiff & the Vale C 341; 11 Cardiff & the Vale D 416.

Year-7 girls – 3 km – 104 finishers – Individuals: 38 Nadine James (Cowbridge, 19) 12:02; 42 Rebecca Thomas (Cowbridge, 23) 12:09; 43 Clara Jones (B of Llandaff, 24) 12:12; 54 Kate Griffin (The Cathedral, 35) 12:36; 57 Alice Tudor (Cowbridge, 38) 12:40; 58 Ana Mirza-Davies (Stanwell, 39) 12:44; 62 Chloe Hughes (Llantwit, 42) 12:49; 67 Eleanor Bishop (Cowbridge, 46) 12:52; 72 Ela Emyr (Cowbridge, 50) 13:03; 74 Maisie Squire (Stanwell, 52) 13:05; 87 Poppy Davies (Howell's, 65) 13:27; 90 Ella Dyer (Stanwell, 68) 13:34; 104 Brooke Langton-Cryer (Cowbridge, 80) 15:04.

Teams: 3 Cardiff & the Vale 119; 7 Cardiff & the Vale B 219; 9 Cardiff & the Vale C 287; 11 Cardiff & the Vale D 379.

Races for club athletes – **Senior men** – 10.2 km – 42 finishers – Individuals: 4 Alex Hains (Cardiff AAC) 28:44.

Mixed masters – 6.5 km – 45 finishers – Individuals: 4 Phil Cook (Les Croupiers, M40) 22:28; 6 Simon Osborne (Bridgend, M45) 23:14; 9 Mick McGeoch (Les Croupiers, M50) 23:43; 35 Evatt Cummings (Bridgend, M40) 27:18; 41 Cath Hayes (Barry & Vale, W40) 31:34; 42 Dawn Howles (Barry & Vale, W40) 32:45.

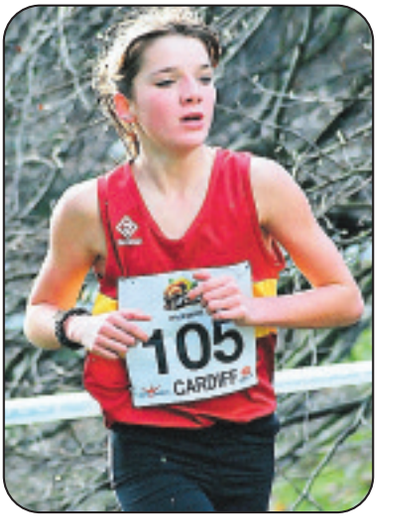
Primary schools boys – 1.3 km – 31 finishers – Individuals: 4 Dewi Bennett (Barry) 6:46; 5 Harry Williams (Evenlode) 6:53; 7 Matt Dawson (Evenlode) 7:01; 12 Rhys Davies Ysgol Iolo Morganwg 7:12; 14 William Marsh (Evenlode) 7:20; 16 Ben McCullagh (Evenlode) 7:22; 20 Cameron McJennett (Evenlode) 7:27; 21 Jack Ares-Swaine (Evenlode) 7:29; 23 Tomas Marsh (Evenlode) 7:43; 24 George Roberts (Evenlode) 7:52.

Primary schools girls – 1.3 km – 20 finishers – Individuals: 8 Seren Marsh (Evenlode) 7:35; 9 Samantha Thomas (Wick & Marcross) 7:41; 13 Alex Slack (Evenlode) 8:37; 14 Maddie Lloyd (Evenlode) 8:42; 16 Emily Geen (Evenlode) 9:01; 18 Evie Spencer (Evenlode) 10:30; 19 Paye Bramhill (Evenlode) 10:45; 20 Lily McJennett (Evenlode) 10:52.

Vale athletes Kristian Jones (Cowbridge 61), and Doug Wilson (Bishop of Llandaff 56) in action in the year-7 boys race.

Matthew Edwards, a team gold medal for the much-improved athlete from Barry Comprehensive.

Cowbridge year-10 Fiona Bray has plenty of maroon and gold vests for company as she battles it out in the middle girls' race.



Megan Osborne (Llantwit) second in the schools' junior girls race for years 8-9.

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JNC Youth and Community Support Workers Range Pt 17
15 hours per week to include evening and weekend work
Ref: Y-TR-YS046

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Temporary up to 31st March 2011
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JNC Youth and Community Support Workers Range Pt 17
15 hours per week to include evenings and weekends
Ref: Y-TR-YS045

For further information and an application form contact the Council by visiting www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or telephone contact OneVale on 01446 700111 between 8am-6pm.

Closing date: 11 February 2010.

Subject to # Job Evaluation and * CRB Disclosure.

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FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE
on the 6th February at Miskin Manor.

Jamie Thomas, son of Tony and Chris Thomas to **Joanne Williams**, daughter of Dr and Mrs Howard Williams of St Mellons.
Love to you both
Dad, Mum, Caroline, Harby, Anysha, Toby xxx

Birth Notices

Congratulations
Sarah & Luke
on the Birth of your Son
'Archie' Spencer Merlini
(Monday 18th Jan 2010)
with much love from
Mamgu xxx

Family Notices

LINES
Elizabeth

On January 22, peacefully at Velindre Hospital, Betty of Llantwit Major. Beloved wife of Mervyn, loving mum of Julie, Sarah, Mary-Jane and Michael, dear mother-in-law of Roger, Paul, Martin and Stacey, much loved by all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon.

Funeral Thursday, February 4, service 2pm at St James Church, Wick followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm. No black attire, please. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff CF14 7JF or Macmillan Nurses, 1st Floor, 1 Oldfield Road, Bocam Park, Pencoed, Bridgend CF35 5LJ.

JENKINS
Huw Steven 1982 – 2010

In his 28th year and after a short illness at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend on the 18th January 2010, Huw of Boverton, Llantwit Major, dearly loved son of Sue and Ron, sadly passed away.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday 1st February. Service at St Illtud's Church Llantwit Major 9.45am, Committal Service at Coychurch Crematorium Bridgend 11.00am.

Family flowers only. Donations may be sent to Barnardo's Family Link Scheme, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

A SHINING LIGHT HAS GONE OUT IN OUR LIVES.

DAVID
Patricia Dorothy

On Jan 19 at UHW, Cardiff, peacefully after a short illness, Patricia (Pat) of Llantwit Major.
Beloved wife of Phillip, loving mother of Emma, much loved daughter of Audrey and the late David James, dear sister of Alun. Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon.
Funeral Wed Feb 3, service 12.30pm at St Illtuds Church, Llantwit Major, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 1.45pm.
Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu if desired to National Association of Colitis and Crohns Disease (NACC) c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, CF62 3DZ.

HAMMETT
Annie Muriel

Peacefully on January 17 at UHW, Cardiff, Muriel of St Athan, beloved wife of the late William Evan, dearly loved mother of David and Valerie, mother-in-law of Dave, much loved Nana of Christopher, Gavin and Sarah.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, February 1, service 1.15pm at The Gathering Place, St Athan followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.45pm.

Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu if desired to National Osteoporosis Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, CF62 3DZ.

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Official fuel consumption figures mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km): Lowest: Savvy Style MT: urban 36.7 (7.7), extra urban 61.4 (4.6), combined 49.6 (5.7); CO2 134; Highest: GEN-2 1.6 GSX AT: urban 28.8 (9.8), extra urban 46.3 (6.1), combined 38.2 (7.4), CO2 176

* Price shown is for Savvy 1.2 Style, manufacturer's list price £7,995 excluding metallic paint which is an option at £120. £1,000 discount available at participating dealers only on Savvy 1.2 Style MT or Auto until 31st of March 2010. Offer excludes vehicles purchased under the government scrappage incentive scheme. On the road price includes VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months' road fund licence and first registration fee. Warranty is subject to maintenance in accordance with manufacturer's schedules. Terms and conditions apply.

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08 1.0i Rhythm 3dr Hatch	Red	16,501 miles	£6,995
CITROEN C2			
58 1.4 HDi VTR 3dr Diesel Hatch	Black	9,091 miles	£8,495
07 1.1i Airplay + 3dr Hatch Sp Eds	Yellow	12,133 miles	£6,495
08 1.4i VTR 3dr Hatch	Silver	15,846 miles	£7,495
06 1.6i 16v VTR 3dr SensoDrive Hatch	Blue	14,000 miles	£5,995
06 1.6i 16v VTR 3dr SensoDrive Hatch	Red	23,521 miles	£5,995
CITROEN C3			
03 1.1 Desire 5dr Hatch Special Edition	Black	19,390 miles	£4,995
08 1.4i Cachet 5dr Hatch Special Ed	Silver	11,905 miles	£7,995
56 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Grey	19,342miles	£6,495
55 1.6i 16v Exclusive 5dr Sensodrive Hatch	Blue	24,769 miles	£5,995
59 Pluriel 1.4i Cote d'Azur 2dr SE	Black	50 miles	£10,995
CITROEN C4			
59 1.6i 16v THO VTS 3dr Coupe	Blue	2,967 miles	£13,995
05 1.6HDi 16v VTR + 5dr Diesel Hatch	Grey	61,000 miles	£5,995
56 1.6iHDi 16v SX 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	19,901 miles	£7,995
56 1.6 16v Cool 3dr Coupe Sp Eds	Silver	29,002 miles	£6,995
06 1.6iHDi 16v VTR Plus 3dr Dsl Coupe	Silver	10,573 miles	£8,495
56 1.6i 16v VTR Plus 3dr Coupe	Black	36,847 miles	£6,995
07 1.4i 16v LX 5dr Hatch	Blue	18,000 miles	£6,495
07 1.6i 16v SX 5dr Auto Hatch	Mauve	11,434 miles	£6,495
CITROEN C4 GRAND PICASSO			
58 1.6 HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr D Est	Grey	19,441 miles	£14,495
08 1.6 HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr D Est	Blue	8,749 miles	£14,495
57 1.6 HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr D Est	Mauve	12,659 miles	£13,495
07 2.0 HDi 16v VTR + 5dr EGS D Est	Silver	21,659 miles	£13,495
CITROEN C4 PICASSO			
57 2.0 16v SX 5dr EGS (5 seat) Estate	Silver	7,723 miles	£10,995
CITROEN C5			
58 2.0i 16v VTR+ 4dr Saloon	Blue	21,324 miles	£11,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Auto Dsl Sal	Red	14,994 miles	£13,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Dsl Saloon	Blue	18,297 miles	£12,995
06 HDi 16v Exclusive 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	35,000 miles	£7,995
CITROEN RELAY			
58 2.2 HDi H1 Van 120ps 33 L1 Diesel	White	5,041 miles	£12,645
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59 1.6i 16v Desire 5dr Estate	???	1 mile	£10.995
08 1.6 HDi 92 VTX 5dr Diesel Estate	Black	25,676 miles	£9,995
07 1.6i 16v Desire 5dr Estate	Silver	44,648 miles	£6,995
06 2.0 16v VTX 5dr Auto Estate	Blue	30,215 miles	£8,595
03 2.0 HDi SX 5dr Diesel Estate	Blue	51,662 miles	£4,995

58 CITROEN C5 2.0i 16v VTR + 4dr Saloon
Blue, 21,324 miles **£11,995**

03 Xsara Picasso 2.0 HDi SX 5dr Diesel Est
Blue, 51,662 miles **£4,995**

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3dr Hatch, Red, 23,521 miles **£5,995**

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WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE?

Mr Russell Phillips – **Highfield, Claude Road West, Barry** – detached double garage with attic store.
Mr Huw Thomas – **6 King Street, Penarth** – proposed ground floor extension and loft conversion.
Mr Geoffrey Rose – **32 Heol Y Dryw, Rhoose** – infill of porch canopy covering.
Mr Gareth Cording – **The Old Chapel, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major** – conversion of use from a disused place of worship to a two-bedroom dwelling.
Mrs Mary Odgers – **14 Ruthen Terrace, Barry** – proposed single storey rear extension to provide ground floor bedroom and disabled showing and WC facilities.
Mr Gareth Cording – **The Old Post Office, St Brides Major** – development of three one-bed flats including diversion of part of public footpath.
Mr Martin Chalk – **23 Castle Avenue, Penarth** – proposed two storey and single storey extensions to rear of property.
Wig Fach Property Co Ltd – **Sion Farm, Hazelwood, Ogmore By Sea** – outline application for provision of Public House together with associated beer garden and car parking.
Mr and Mrs Wilson – **4 Windmill Close, Llantwit Major** – construct pitched roof over existing flat roof to former garage. Extension and alteration to outbuilding to provide annex to the main house.
Mr Andrew Lamb – **89 Cardiff Road, Dinas Powys** – replacement of existing conservatory with extended ground floor extension and conversion of existing integral garage to study.
Mr Jeffrey Saxton – **Llanvithyn Farm, Llancarfan** – lawful development certificate for residential dwelling not subject to agricultural occupancy condition or occupation of dwelling in breach of condition.
Wig Fach Property Co Ltd – **Ogmore by Sea Caravan Park, Hazelwood, Ogmore by Sea** – outline application for re-development of caravan site for residential development, with assocciated open space.
Wig Fach Property Co Ltd – **Beth Rapha, Ogmore by Sea Caravan Park, Hazelwood, Ogmore By Sea** – outline application for re-development for two dwellings.
Mr Thomas – **50 Victoria Road, Penarth** – conservatory extension to the rear elevation.
Mr Alan Jauncey – **7 Ewenny Road, Wick** – increase in height of dwelling, front and rear dormer extensions, single storey rear extension.
Mr Philip Hall – **78 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – material change to existing conservatory, side elevation.
Mr Phillip Morgan – **9 Picton Court, Llantwit Major** – single storey front extension.
Mr Martyn Edwards – **Spring Meadows, Llandow, Cowbridge** – retention of extension to existing barn.
Mr Anthony Evans – **Vicarage Lawns, St Brides Major** – conversion of garage to provide accommodation for parents.
Miss Helen Jones – **15 Fairfield Rise, Llantwit Major** – two storey extension.
Mr and Mrs Coley – **91 Broadway, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – construct new bedroom projections to front and new garden room extension to rear, new single detached garage and boundary wall and gate to front.
Mr and Mrs NJC Griffith – **Ty Newydd, St Brides Super Ely** – construction of carport including associated external works.
Mr F Coughlan – **23 The White House, The Knap, Barry** – amendment to application 2009/00554/FUL to alter roof from and provide Velux window to study.
Mr Michael Davies – **land at rear of Silver Birch, Ynys Dawel and St Tudy, Leckwith Road, Llandough** – provision of private sewer works (retrospective).
Mr Keith Walker – **6 Fitzhamon Avenue, Llantwit Major** – single storey extension to side of property to provide disabled accommodation.
Mr Lesley J Berger – **The Lodge, Highfield Close, Park Road, Barry** – two storey extension to dwelling.
Mr Shah Rahman – **57 Winston Road Barry** – illuminated perspex box sign.
Openreach – **side of Barclays Bank, Bradenham Place, Penarth** – installation of new green coloured cabinet.
Mr R and Dr E Care – **Church House, Fort Road, Lavernock Point, near Penarth** – single storey rear extension.
Mr Kenneth George Broad – **Broadacres, Cog Road, Sully** – erection of two detached dwellings (outline).
Mr D Shale – **104 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – replace existing roof rear extension with new, and internal alterations.
Broadlands Property Investments Ltd – **Mill Barns, Mill Road, Boverton** – conversion of barn to three bedroom dwelling.
Mr and Mrs Williams – **Caradoc Cottage, Llancarfan** – demolition of existing sub-standard cottage and replacement with new dwelling and garage.
Mr and Mrs R Burt – **13 Plassey Square, Penarth** – ground floor extension on rear elevation of existing property.
Mr and Mrs O'Hagan – **Beech House, St Nicholas** – installation of timber conservatory to rear elevation.
Mr T Vaughan – **Pant Wilkin Stables, Llanquian Road, Aberthin** – provision of hardstanding parking area for vehicles and access track.
Ms J Burgess and Miss K Kisey – **Hayes House, Hayes Road, Sully** – retrospective application for cat housing building and two stores with change of use to mix of residential and emergency cat shelter.
Evan Williams – **Aberogwrn Farm, Llancarfan** – proposed staff accommodation (with rear extension).
Evan Williams – **Aberogwrn Farm, Llancarfan** – proposed second hay/storage feed barn.
Mrs Kirsty Bratchley – **1 Sandy Lane, Ystradowen** – single storey extension to rear, first floor extension to side.
Mr Matthew Donnelly – **land at the junction of Pill Street and Little Dock Street, Cogan Pill, Penarth** – proposed two two-storey residential dwellings.
Mr James Mangles – **Copperfields, St Mary Church** – proposed double storey side extension and single storey front extension.
Mr Ross Maclean – **Aberthin Cottage, Aberthin** – retention of summerhouse to replace outbuilding.
Mr James Davies – **land at Prisk Farm, Prisk** – agricultural access track.
Mr John Falcon – **18 Caradoc Avenue, Barry** – proposed demolition of existing rear single storey structure and construction of rear single storey extension with garage.
Mr Gavin Birt – **The Chestnuts, Llysworney** – amendments to application 2009/00011/FUL to provide a kitchen extension with en-suite bedroom at first floor level and a utility extension.
Cardiff Airport – **Cardiff Airport, Rhoose** – landside extension to Cardiff Airport terminal building including re-configuration of passenger drop-off area and associated works.
Mr Edward Saunders – **Greenmeadows, St Nicholas** – rear single storey extension.
Mr Robert Stanger – **Westridge, Porthkerry Park, Barry** – conservatory.
Mr Jeff Patreane – **17 Railway Terrace, Dinas Powys** – first floor extension to rear, detached garage off rear lane.

Barry to take a big role in Sport Relief

LOCAL residents are being urged to support a special Barry Island-based challenge for Sport Relief 2010.

Part of a three-day Sport Relief weekend of energy, entertainment and events, the Sainsbury's Barry Island Mile will be held on Sunday, March 21, and will start from opposite the Dolphin Bar at 11am. Runners can enter at *www.sportrelief.com*

The Vale Council events officer Sarah Jones said: "Everyone is invited to take part – from teeny-tots with their mums and dads to super sprinters up against the clock. There's something for everyone on the big day, and you can do one, three or six miles."

Hundreds of thousands of people across the country are expected to rise to the challenge at the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile – and have a great time too.

Money raised through sponsorship will help poor and vulnerable people both in the UK and across the world's poorest countries.

Since its launch in 2002, more than 1.25 million people have taken part in Sport Relief, helping to raise over £75 million. Sainsbury's has supported Comic Relief since 1999, and has raised more than £43 million to date.

For further information on the Barry Island event, contact 01446 704737.

Porthcawl under-11s seal Bryncoch victory with four-try burst

PORTHCAWL under-11s 28
BRYNCOCH under-11s 7

AFTER a series of poor performances, Porthcawl under-11s travelled to Bryncoch determined to regain their early season form.

With a punishing pre-match warm up, and final words of wisdom from their coaches ringing in their years, the Porthcawl players started the match in impressive fashion.

Straight from the kick-off they were on the attack.

A darting run by centre Brad Griffiths, and quick ruck ball from the breakdown allowed scrum-half Tom Cogbill to feed Will Lampard, who was hauled down inches short of the line.

This move set a pattern of play that was to last throughout the first half.

Porthcawl's well-drilled pack were now gaining the upper hand over their larger but less mobile opponents. This allowed their backs to attack from all areas of the pitch.

From one such attack, outside-half Jack Richards left the Brynoch defence grasping at thin air as he weaved his way through to score from well inside his own half.

Not to be outdone, the Porthcawl forwards now got in on the act with Ben Jones, Will Lampard and Rhys Cobley breaking the gain line at will to release Leon Evans and Joe Williams to score well-deserved tries.

With the Porthcawl team now in total ascendancy, a further score before half-time was inevitable.

This time a strike against the head allowed Jack Richards to dance over from halfway, rounding off a superb first half performance.

The second half was a complete contrast to the first. With the pitch deteriorating, Bryncoch's heavyweight approach saw them claw their way back into contention.

An early try by Bryncoch had the Porthcawl supporters fearing the worst.

They need not have worried.

The entire Porthcawl team turned in a fantastic second half defensive display with James Thomas and Ben Jones continually to the fore.

In fact, as the half ended, only superb defence by Bryncoch denied Porthcawl further tries.

Firstly Ioan Bluck and then Tom Cogbill were held up inches short of the line.

Joe Williams again converted all four tries and Will Lampard was named man-of-the-match. **AC**

White Dove Skoda offers drivers a free winter health check

SUB-ZERO temperatures can seriously damage cars and, after a period of treacherous driving conditions, many vehicles will be feeling the strain.

When temperatures drop, a car's battery can begin to fail, wiper blades can rip as they stick to the windscreen and tyre wear can accelerate after skidding on icy tarmac. To help its customers remain safe on the roads this winter, White Dove Skoda is offering free car health checks and advice.

Alison Williams, service manager at White Dove Skoda, explains: "At White Dove Skoda, we are renowned for great customer service and are happy to offer our knowledge and expertise to any Skoda driver who is concerned about the condition of their car.

"We will undertake all the checks within around 20 minutes and it could help prevent drivers being stuck on the side of the road for hours this winter, or worse, involved in an accident."

The free health check includes the inspection of the battery, coolant levels, windscreen wipers and tyres.

For further information or to arrange a free car heath check, Skoda customers should contact White Dove Skoda on 02920 642 999, www.whitedovegroup.co.uk Hadfield Road, Cardiff CF11 8WD

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FordNew Ka Studio
1.2 8v Duratec (69PS)

On The Road Price**	£6,295.00
24 Monthly Payments	£101.91
Deposit Allowance***	£450.00
Customer Deposit	£nil
Total Deposit	£450.00
Amount of Credit	£5,845.00
Total Charge for Credit (inc. £10 Purchase fee*)	£476.84
Total Amount Payable by the Customer	£6,718.84
GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£3,876.00
Mileage per Annum	12000
Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

**includes £2,000 Ford/Government Scrappage Allowance and £1000 customer saving

Typical **4.9% APR**
Freepost Ford Credit

***Subject to finance. Deposit Allowance paid by Ford Motor Company when financed on typical 4.9% APR through Ford Credit.

FordNew Fiesta Zetec
1.25 16v Duratec (82PS)

On The Road Price**	£10,195.00
24 Monthly Payments	£207.47
Deposit Allowance***	£450.00
Customer Deposit	£nil
Total Deposit	£450.00
Amount of Credit	£9,745.00
Total Charge for Credit (inc. £10 Purchase fee*)	£699.52
Total Amount Payable by the Customer	£9,454.52
GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£5,515.00
Mileage per Annum	12000
Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

**includes £2,000 Ford/Government Scrappage Allowance and £2,550 customer saving

Typical **4.9% APR**
Freepost Ford Credit

***Subject to finance. Deposit Allowance paid by Ford Motor Company when financed on typical 4.9% APR through Ford Credit.

FordFocus Zetec
1.6 16v Petrol (100PS) Euro Stage IV

On The Road Price**	£12,295.00
24 Monthly Payments	£250.81
Deposit Allowance***	£1,500.00
Customer Deposit	£nil
Total Deposit	£1,500.00
Amount of Credit	£10,795.00
Total Charge for Credit (inc. £10 Purchase fee*)	£804.44
Total Amount Payable by the Customer	£11,599.44
GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£5,580.00
Mileage per Annum	12000
Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

**includes £2,000 Ford/Government Scrappage Allowance and £3,950.00 customer saving

Typical **4.9% APR**
Freepost Ford Credit

***Subject to finance. Deposit Allowance paid by Ford Motor Company when financed on typical 4.9% APR through Ford Credit.

FordNew Fiesta Edge
1.25 Petrol (60PS)

On The Road Price**	£8,395.00
24 Monthly Payments	£148.10
Deposit Allowance***	£450.00
Customer Deposit	£nil
Total Deposit	£450.00
Amount of Credit	£7,945.00
Total Charge for Credit (inc. £10 Purchase fee*)	£631.52
Total Amount Payable by the Customer	£8,846.52
GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£5,027.00
Mileage per Annum	12000
Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

**includes £2,000 Ford/Government Scrappage Allowance and £2,200.00 customer saving

Typical **4.9% APR**
Freepost Ford Credit

***Subject to finance. Deposit Allowance paid by Ford Motor Company when financed on typical 4.9% APR through Ford Credit.

FordNew Ka Style +
1.2 8v Duratec (69PS)

On The Road Price**	£7,295.00
24 Monthly Payments	£130.17
Deposit Allowance***	£450.00
Customer Deposit	£nil
Total Deposit	£450.00
Amount of Credit	£6,845.00
Total Charge for Credit (inc. £10 Purchase fee*)	£545.08
Total Amount Payable by the Customer	£7,400.08
GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£4,266.00
Mileage per Annum	12000
Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

**includes £2,000 Ford/Government Scrappage Allowance and £1.200.00 customer saving

Typical **4.9% APR**
Freepost Ford Credit

***Subject to finance. Deposit Allowance paid by Ford Motor Company when financed on typical 4.9% APR through Ford Credit.

FordMondeo Zetec 5 door
2.0 Diesel TDCi 6sp

On The Road Price**	£15,995.00
24 Monthly Payments	£371.23
Deposit Allowance***	£1,000.00
Customer Deposit	£nil
Total Deposit	£1,000.00
Amount of Credit	£14,995.00
Total Charge for Credit (inc. £10 Purchase fee*)	£1,089.52
Total Amount Payable by the Customer	£16,094.52
GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£7,175.00
Mileage per Annum	12000
Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

**includes £2,000 Ford/Government Scrappage Allowance and £4,250.00 customer saving

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165/70R13 Bridgestone B250	£46.34	£87	£165	165/70R13 Avon CR322	£36.62	£70	£135	165/70R13 Federal	£28.81	£52	£99
175/70R14 Bridgestone B250	£59.00	£112	£210	175/70R14 Avon CR322	£46.67	£90	£170	175/70R14 Federal	£32.75	£60	£115
175/65R14 Bridgestone B250	£48.00	£89	£170	175/65R14 Avon CR322	£39.92	£75	£140	175/65R14 Maxxis	£33.79	£62	£120

PERFORMANCE TYRES FROM £35.20

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
185/60R14 Bridgestone ER300	£53.14	£99	£190	185/60R14 Avon ZV3	£46.66	£90	£170	185/60R14 Federal	£35.20	£65	£125
185/60R14 Bridgestone B250	£65.49	£120	£230	185/60R14 Avon ZV3	£50.31	£95	£185	185/60R14 Maxxis	£35.38	£65	£125
185/60R15 Bridgestone ER300	£69.93	£132	£255	185/60R15 Avon ZV3	£53.86	£102	£199	185/60R15 Maxxis	£38.88	£70	£135
195/60R15 Bridgestone B250	£57.03	£108	£205	195/60R15 Avon ZV3	£50.43	£95	£185	195/60R15 Federal	£41.90	£75	£140

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES FROM £36.42

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
195/50R15 Bridgestone ER300	£51.34	£98	£189	195/50R15 Avon ZV3	£46.67	£85	£160	195/50R15 Nexen	£36.42	£67	£130
195/60R15 Bridgestone ER300	£72.23	£135	£260	195/60R15 Avon ZV5	£59.73	£115	£220	195/60R15 Federal	£42.15	£79	£150
195/65R15 Bridgestone ER300	£60.13	£110	£210	195/65R15 Avon ZV5	£52.84	£99	£190	195/65R15 Federal	£43.40	£80	£150
205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£67.74	£125	£240	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£62.60	£120	£230	205/55R16 Federal	£52.33	£99	£190

ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES FROM £49.22

Bridgestone	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
205/50R16 Bridgestone ER300	£89.73	£170	£330	205/50R16 Avon ZV5	£73.55	£140	£270	205/50R16 Federal	£50.02	£95	£180
205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£72.64	£135	£260	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£65.43	£120	£230	205/55R16 Federal	£49.32	£92	£175
225/45R17 Bridgestone RE010	£92.66	£175	£340	225/45R17 XL Avon ZV5	£86.92	£165	£320	225/45R17 XL Federal	£51.19	£95	£180
225/40R18 XL Bridgestone RE050	£116.98	£220	£420	225/40R18 XL Avon ZV5	£101.60	£195	£375	225/40R18 Federal	£61.00	£115	£220

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09 Astra 1.4 Active 5dr in Star Silver, 7,000 miles £9495
59 Astra Active 1.6 5dr, Delivery mileage ..... From £10995
59 Astra Active 1.4 5dr, Delivery mileage ..... From £10495

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08 Corsa 1.2 SXi 5dr in Star Silver, 14,000 miles £8295
08 Corsa 1.4 SXi 3dr AUTO in Metro Blue, 9,000 miles £8995
08 Corsa 1.3 CDTi SXi AC 90 5dr in Silver Lightning, 23,000 miles £7995
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06 Renault Clio 1.6 Dynamique 3dr Black, 39,000 miles £6995
06 Peugeot 206 Sport 5dr in Grey Metallic, 32,000 miles £5995
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07 **07 JAGUAR X K convertible.** Zircon blue metallic with ivory sports leather interior, upgraded 20 inch setanta wheels, full colour satellite navigation, electric heated memory seats, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, bluetooth phone prep, only 12,621 miles, fsh, 1 owner **£42,995**

07 **56 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0D SE Estate.** In shadow grey with full leather interior, colour touch screen sat nav, heated seats, cruise control, climate control, only 18,495 miles, fsh, ... **£14,995**

06 **56 BMW 2.0TD 320D SE 4-dr Saloon.** In Arctic grey with anthracite interior, automatic air con, upgraded alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 41,655 miles, fsh **£14,995**

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05 **05 MERCEDES Benz 1.8 SLK 200 Compressor Auto 2-dr Convertible** in Tellur silver, black leather interior, climate control, multi function steering wheel, CD, alloys, only 61,000 miles, fsh **£16,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz M-Class 2.7 TD ML270 CDi Automatic 5-Door Station Wagon.** In Brilliant silver with Orion grey leather interior, climate control, Bluetooth phone prep, privacy glass, heated seats, rear parking sensors, only 52,975 miles **£15,995**

05 **55 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel SE** in Amethyst with Ivory Leather interior, cd, alloys, cruise control, electric sunroof, electric seats, only 34,255 miles **£9,995**

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01 **51 JAGUAR S-Type 3.0 V6 4-Door Saloon Automatic.** In Pacific blue with cashmere beige full leather interior, climate control, CD, electric seats, rear parking sensors, only 55,810 miles **£5,995**

01 **X LEXUS RX 300 Station Wagon Auto.** In platinum silver with Lincoln interior, air con, alloy wheels, electric windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 85,000 miles **£5,996**

SPORTS

07 **07 VW Beetle 1.6 Luna 2-dr Cabriolet.** In harvest moon beige with dark interior, heated seats, CD, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 11,335 miles **£12,995**

07 **07 PEUGEOT 207 1.6 HDi Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** In Onyx black with Madrid black/grey interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 29,405 miles **£8,495**

06 **06 VOLKSWAGEN Golf GT TDi 2.0 (140) 5-dr** in steel grey with dark interior, cd, dual climate control, cruise control, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, only 58,300 miles **£9,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus 1.8TDCi Sport 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with dark flint interior, CD, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 55,315 miles **£7,495**

06 **55 AUDI A3 2.0T FSi 5-dr Sport Back** in Avus silver with matrix cloth interior. BOSE speaker system, 17 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, climate conrol, cd, only 39,280 miles **£11,995**

05 **05 MINI 1.6 Cooper S (Chilli Pack).** Black, black leather interior, a/c, alloys, cd, rear parking sensors, only 49,390 miles **£11,995**

05 **55 BMW X3 2.0D Sport 5-dr Station Wagon.** In blue water silver with black leather interior, sat nav, multi CD, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, only 61,930 miles **£14,995**

05 **54 MG ZT-T 1.8T 160 5-dr Estate.** In Royal blue, Monaco ash half leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, multi-function steering wheel, only 32,320 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£7,995**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 182 Sport 3-dr hatchback.** In met blue with half leather/suede interior, sports seats, traction control, cruise control, climate control, alloys, 6 cd auto changer, only 51,314 miles **£6,995**

03 **53 MGTF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles **£4,495**

02 **52 VOLKSWAGEN Golf TDi (130) 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Reflex silver with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, climate control, CD changer, only 68,990 miles **£5,995**

02 **02 HONDA Accord 2.3i VTEC Type V (150)** in Atlantic blue with tan leather interior, electric drivers seat, sunroof, alloy wheels, climate control, rear parking sensors, only 48,000 miles **£4,495**

01 **Y AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225)** in met silver with full granite leather, 18" alloy wheels, heated seats, trip computer, cruise control + climate control, cd multi-changer with BOSE stereo upgrade, only 63,010 miles **£8,495**

00 **X TVR Tuscan 4 litre V8 360bhp.** In crystal topaz pearl blue with portland grey leather interior, cd, 18" spyder alloy wheels, e/windows, cat 1 alarm, e/mirrors, a/c, substantial workshop portfolio, supreme example, only 36,000 miles **£12,995**

99 **T BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr Convertible.** In Green with green leather interior, colour coded bumpers, CD, alloy wheels, electric hood, only 51,300 miles **£5,995**

FAMILY

06 **56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr hatchback.** In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles **£7,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV** in tonic blue with dark flint interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 31,000 miles **£8,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16V SE 5-dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

05 **54 CITROEN Xsara Picasso Exclusive 1.6HDi.** In icelandic green metallic with doris blue interior, cruise control, climate control, alloy wheels, trip computer, cd, 1 owner, only 29,420 miles **£7,495**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 SW 2.0 HDi 90 XSi 5-dr Estate.** China blue, black/grey merlin interior, a/c, body coloured bumpers, cd, alloys, only 45,796 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 RENAULT Scenic 1.4 16v Authentique** in met grey with anthracite interior, a/c, auto wipers, auto lights, only 42,800 miles **£4,695**

04 **04 MAZDA 3 1.6TS 5-dr Hatchback** in titanium grey with blue sport cloth interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, steering wheel mounted audio controls, only 54,805 miles **£5,295**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

02 **52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr Hatchback.** Grey tungsten cloth, cd, a/c, reversing sensors, colour coded bumpers, only 44,300 miles **£3,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles **£7,995**

01 **Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon.** In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles **£4,295**

SMALL

08 **58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVT-I T2 5-dr Hatchback.** In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles **£7,995**

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07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

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06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with Kompass blue interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, only 39,475 miles **£6,495**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus Sport** in pearl black pearlescent with extreme interior, colour coded bumpers, remote central locking, alloy wheels, alarm and immobiliser, electric windows, only 22,488 miles **£5,295**

06 **55 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVT-i Sport** in carbon quartz met with dark flint interior, alloy wheels, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, electric windows, only 51,300 miles **£4,995**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£5,495**

04 **54 FORD Ka 1.3 3-door Hatchback.** In deep navy blue with indigo cascade cloth interior, CD, ABS, immobiliser, power steering, only 31,595 miles **£2,995**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In Platinum silver with dark grey interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, CD, front fogs, only 37,700 miles **£4,795**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.3 Style 3-dr Hatchback.** In moondust silver with digit anthracite interior, CD, power steering, colour coded bumpers, only 48,656 miles **£3,495**

03 **53 VW Beetle 3-dr Hatchback.** In platinum grey with Cavasta grey interior, heated seats, CD, electric windows, only 30,850 miles **£6,495**

03 **03 NISSAN Micra 1.0 E hatchback.** In aruba blue with urban interior, body coloured bumpers, cd, electric windows, alaem and immobiliser, only 38,000 miles **£3,795**

02 **02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles **£5,495**

02 **52 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback** in met silver with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 48,060 miles **£3,995**

02 **02 DAEWOO Matiz 0.8 SE 5-dr.** In super red with grey interior, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 30,288 miles **£2,495**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46.010 miles **£3,995**

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L **93 AUSTIN Mini 1.3 Sprite 2-dr Saloon Automatic.** In night fire red with grey interior, all original specification, only 47,215 miles **£2,995**

05 **55 BMW X3 2.0D Sport 5-dr Station Wagon.** In blue water silver with black leather interior, sat nav, multi CD, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, only 61,930 miles..... **£14,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz M-Class 2.7 TD ML270 CDi Automatic 5-Door Station Wagon.** In Brilliant silver with Orion grey leather interior, climate control, Bluetooth phone prep, privacy glass, heated seats, rear parking sensors, only 52,975 miles.... **£15,995**

07 **07 VW Beetle 1.6 Luna 2-dr Cabriolet.** In harvest moon beige with dark interior, heated seats, CD, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 11,335 miles **£12,995**

05 **54 MG ZT-T 1.8T 160 5-dr Estate.** In Royal blue, Monaco ash half leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, multi-function steering wheel, only 32,320 miles..... **£5,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles..... **£7,995**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles..... **£6,995**

02 **02 DAEWOO Matiz 0.8 SE 5-dr.** In super red with grey interior, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 30,288 miles..... **£2,495**

03 **03 NISSAN Micra 1.0 E hatchback.** In aruba blue with urban interior, body coloured bumpers, cd, electric windows, alaem and immobiliser, only 38,000 miles..... **£3,795**

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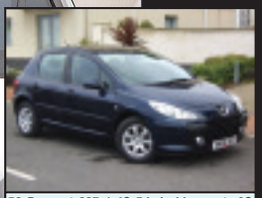

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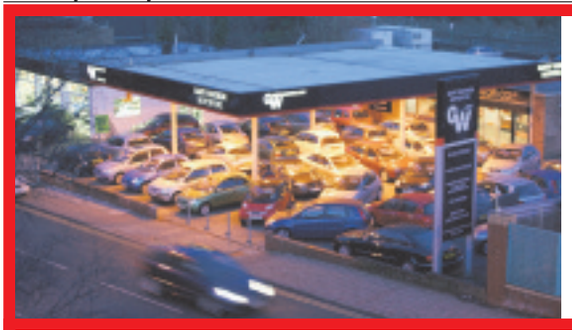

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54	**RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-Dr.** In met. Sherwood green, with s/r, a/c, cd etc.	**£3,995**
54	**SMART4Two. 700cc True Style Auto** in met black, panoramic roof, alloys, cd	**£3,995**
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GEM sport

DINAS LEFT HARD DONE BY AFTER CALDICOT DEFEAT

Welsh League Division 1
DINAS POWYS 0
CALDICOT TOWN 3

DESPITE the scoreline, this was a promising performance from Dinas, who more than matched their high-flying opponents for long spells of the game with sharper finishing the only real difference between the sides.

Both sides had early corners with Dinas nearly taking the lead when Joe Hinds headed just wide from one corner. The same player forced a superb save from James Smallcombe when he picked up a long clearance from Peter Blaine, shrugged off his marker and his shot forced Smallcombe into a finger-tip save to push the ball over the bar.

After another good spell of Dinas pressure, Mark Dunford, wide on the right, brought another save from Smallcombe.

On the 35-minute mark, David Lloyd was booked for a foul on Ricki Morgan, with Jacob Rudman's free-kick curling just wide of the visitors' far post.

However, Dinas were made to rue their missed chances when a Caldicot free-kick, taken by Gareth Haywood,was volleyed home by David Lloyd right on half-time to give the visitors the lead.

The second period was again very even early on, with Dinas midfield duo, Morgan and Rudman, tackling and closing down any Caldicot chances to gain possession for long spells, but a Caldicot corner evaded everyone in the six-yard box to reach Gareth Cullimore at the far post to head home powerfully to double the visitors' account.

This was followed by a 25-yard free kick for Caldicot which skimmed across the ground to hit the far post and was cleared.

Dinas manager Danny Kinsey then rang the changes, bringing on Tony Wallis and Paul Carro for Josh Refell and Tom Hutton.

Another spell of Dinas pressure then ensued, with good work by Rudman to feed Ricki Morgan, who fired over the bar.

With 15 minutes remaining, Caldicot put the game beyond doubt when Cullimore lashed home a cross from the left to give Blaine no chance.

The Dinas heads didn't drop, however, and they finished the game strongly when, after good work by Wallis to feed Dunford, it resulted in him firing a powerful low shot just wide of the upright.

A mention must be made of Dinas defender Owain Adams who had a fine game, and the tireless running of Joe Hinds upfront who always gives 100 per cent effort.

Another tough encounter awaits Dinas next Saturday when they travel to play Cambrian & Clydach with a 2pm kick-off.

Further information can be found on the club's website at: www.dinaspowysfc.co.uk

PK

RUGBY RUST VISIBLE AS...

Second half comeback wins it for Barry RFC

BARRY RFC travelled to the Rhondda last Saturday for their first game in some months – it was expected to be a difficult fixture – and so it proved.

Initially, Penygraig showed more appetite for the game than the visitors. Within a few minutes, they were rewarded with a penalty, the award of which put both teams on notice that the forte of the referee was control around the tackle area.

Barry responded well and good line kicking, especially by Lee from the base of the scrum, led to an equalising penalty by Cummings.

Barry were having considerable difficulty in winning ball from the line-outs, but when the ball was made available, the Barry backs showed their mettle with some good attacking work, featuring full-back Ryan coming into the line.

Penygraig were having the better of exchanges and were full value for the lead they established on the half-hour mark. This was through an excellent try scored by their second row, who sold the Barry defence an outrageous dummy – Barry should not assume a mere forward is incapable of such skills!

With the half-time score 8-3 in favour of Penygraig, it was essential that Barry put much more effort and concentration into the second half.

Whatever was said during the interval, it had the required effect and there was a dramatic improvement all round. The Barry forwards turned an early scrummage through 90 degrees and won the ensuing penalty.

They also were much more disciplined than their opponents, who lost several attacking positions and hard-earned territory by querying the decisions of the referee.

This resulted in two further successful penalties converted by the captain.

After half an hour, the visitors scored a very well-taken try, which culminated in Brown giving the final pass for Ryan to score at the corner. The distance and angle for the conversion were just too much for success.

The final score came deep into injury time with another fine penalty by Cummings.

There were several worrying aspects of Barry's play. The first half was uniformly dismal with a lack of clear direction and leadership. The line-out performance was poor throughout, which appeared to be as a result of lack of co-ordination between thrower and catcher.

On the positive side were the two 'Ds'. The second half showed what this Barry team is capable of, especially in defence, with no points conceded after the turn round. A very encouraging aspect was the discipline exhibited from start to finish, which was reflected in a very able referee awarding many more penalties to Barry than to the opposition.

Final score: Penygraig 8, Barry 20.

Next game is at home to Cowbridge on Saturday kick-off 2.30pm.

CO

SPORTS NEWS FROM ST CYRES SCHOOL

Second half fightback settles derby

THE year-10 rugby fixture between St Cyres and Stanwell saw a large number of spectators turn up for the local derby.

The game started with Stanwell opening the scoring through good handling in their backs.

St Cyres replied quickly from a lineout, where Joe Green crashed over. Stanwell continued to move the ball through their backs and scored two more tries before half-time, where the score was **St Cyres 7-17 Stanwell**.

The second half started in much the same style as the first, and Stanwell opened the scoring, stretching their score to 7-24.

This seemed to wake the St Cyres players up and a tremendous fight back started with excellent individual tries from Tom Baister and Corey Imperato.

Callum Driscoll added another conversion, increasing the score to 19-24. The Stanwell pack started to tire, while the St Cyres forwards continued to dominate and apply pressure.

Eventually, St Cyres gained a penalty for hands in the ruck and from close range, Corey Imperato completed his brace, crashing over for a try.

With the score level, Callum Driscoll calmly added the extra two points to give St Cyres the lead for the first time in the game.

There only two minutes remaining, and Stanwell applied a lot of pressure on the St Cyres defence, but were unable to snatch back the lead.

Final score St Cyres 26 – 24 Stanwell.

Club seeks players

HIGH Street Harriers FC is looking to expand next season with the addition of an under-14s side for boys who will be in year-9 in September (current year-8s).

A club spokesman said: "We are an equal opportunities club who welcome players from all backgrounds and abilities. We will be holding an open session for new recruits later in the year."

Telephone Justin (club secretary) on 07894 758164 or contact us via our website www.hshfc.moonfruit.com

Rugby used to be so simple!

I USUALLY look forward in anticipation to the Six Nations, but this year I fear that we will not be entertained as much as in previous years.

A typical game now seems to be one of aerial ping-pong interspersed with endless penalties given by over-officious referees.

In many cases, the winner is decided by the referee awarding a dubious penalty in the last few minutes.

It used to be true that to score points a team needed to be in possession of the ball. No longer! A team can win on penalties alone, without recourse to scoring a try. Maybe the rules could be tweaked to encourage real flowing rugby.

I suggest that penalties should only score one point and kicks at the post should only be allowed inside the 22-metre area. To speed up the game and get away from endless 'phases', rucks should be limited to say three before the game must be opened out.

As for referees, why not adopt a universal advantage rule, instead of leaving the interpretation to individual referees?

Rugby used to be a simple game!

Ceri Harris, Llantrisant

Anyone for cricket?

LOCAL cricket team Barry Strollers are looking forward to the 2010 season, and a full fixture list for Sundays and mid week are in place.

There is plenty of cricket to play, and if you would like to join this social bunch you would be very welcome, irrespective of ability.

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